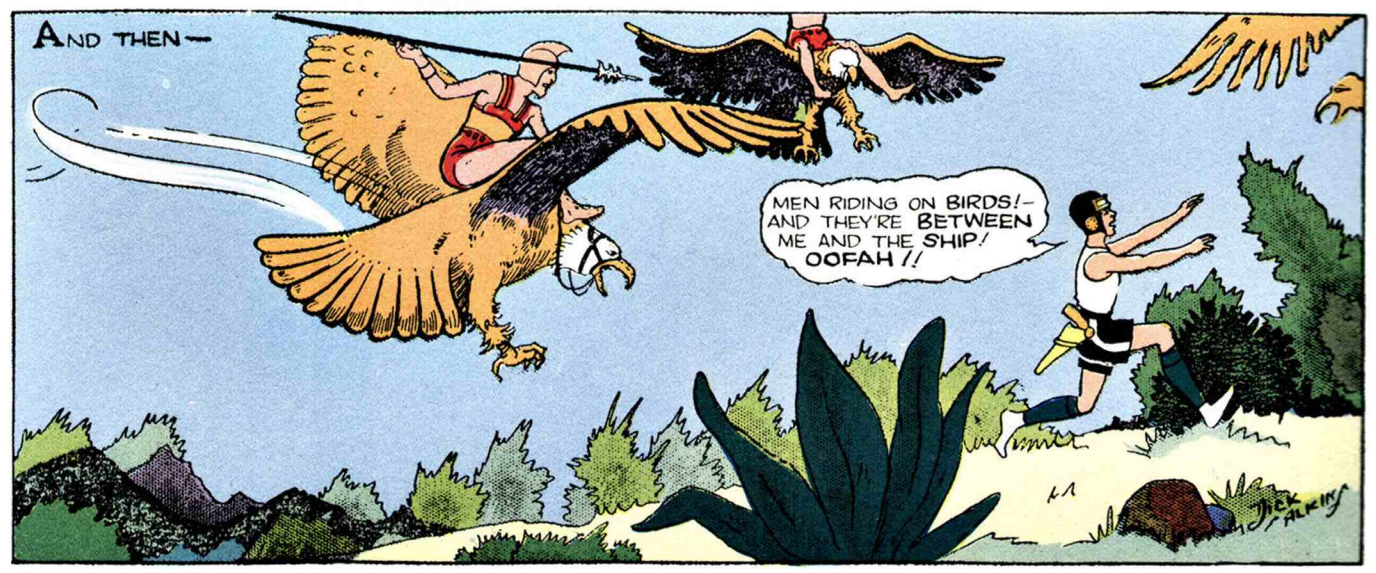
Buck Rogers 15th Century A.D.



Sunday Story 04

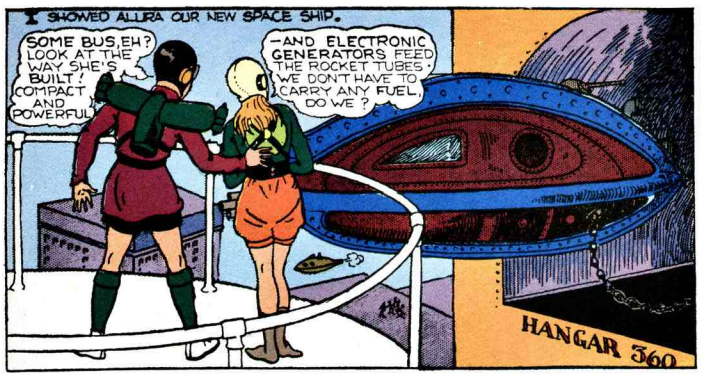
"Marooned on Venus"

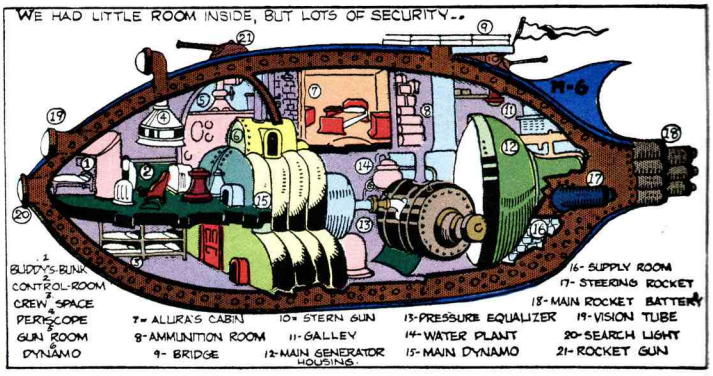
December 7, 1930 to July 12, 1931
Series I Strips 37 to 68

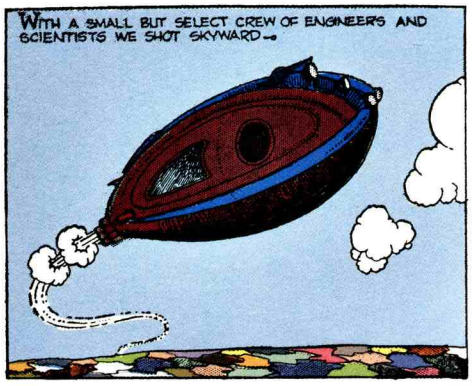
by Russell Keaton

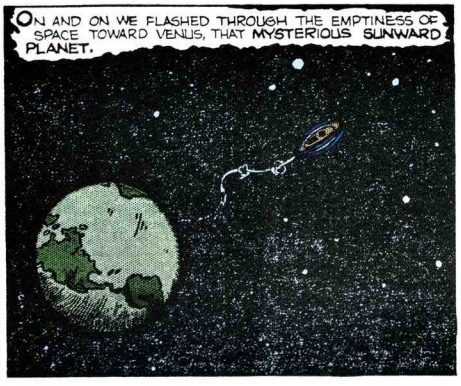
IT WAS IN THE WINTER OF 2430-31 A.D. WHEN I - BUDDY DEERING, BROTHER OF WILMA AND FRIEND OF BUCK ROGERS - AND ALURA, A CHARMING YOUNG PRINCESS OF MARS, WHO MUCH PREFERRED INTERPLANETARY ADVENTURE TO THE SPLENDOR OF HER FATHER'S COURT ON THE RED PLANET, DECIDED ON AN EXPEDITION TO VENUS, A PLANET AS YET UNEXPLORED--
GEE, I WISH I HAD SOME PLACE TO GO!
BUCK ROGERS
2430 A.D.
BY PHIL NOWLAN AND DICK CALKINS

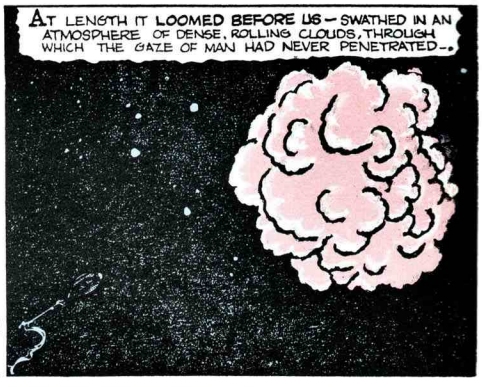
THE BIRD RIDERS OF VENUS

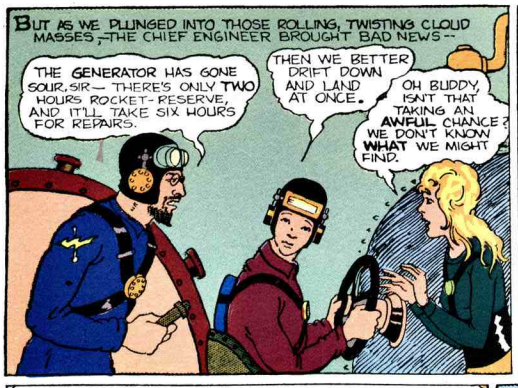

I SHOWED ALURA OUR NEW SPACE SHIP.
SOME BUS, EH? LOOK AT THE WAY SHE'S BUILT! COMPACT AND POWERFUL!
--AND ELECTRONIC GENERATORS FEED THE ROCKET TUBES; WE DON'T HAVE TO CARRY ANY FUEL, DO WE?
HANGAR 360



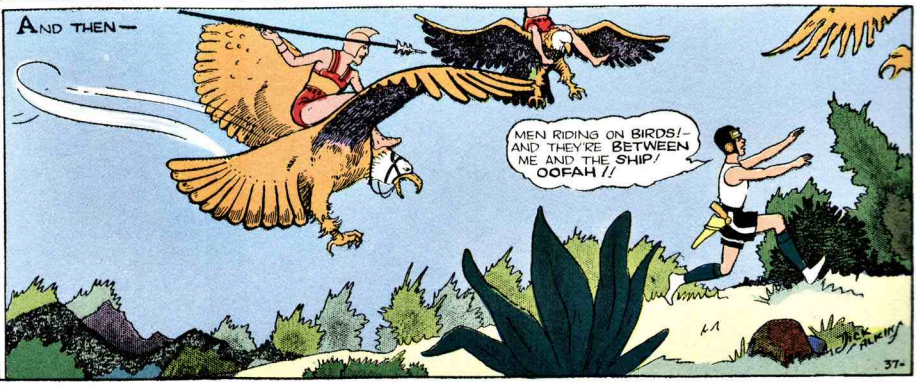


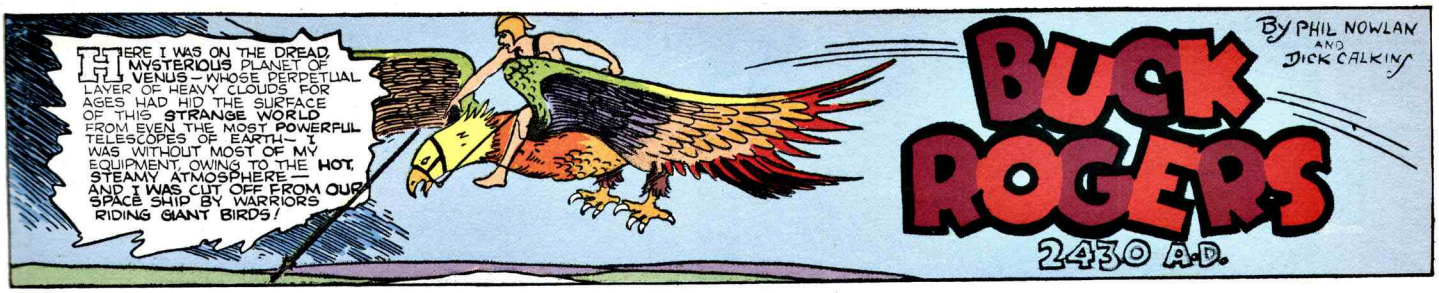



AT LENGTH IT LOOMED BEFORE US - SWATHED IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF DENSE, ROLLING CLOUDS, THROUGH WHICH THE GAZE OF MAN HAD NEVER PENETRATED--

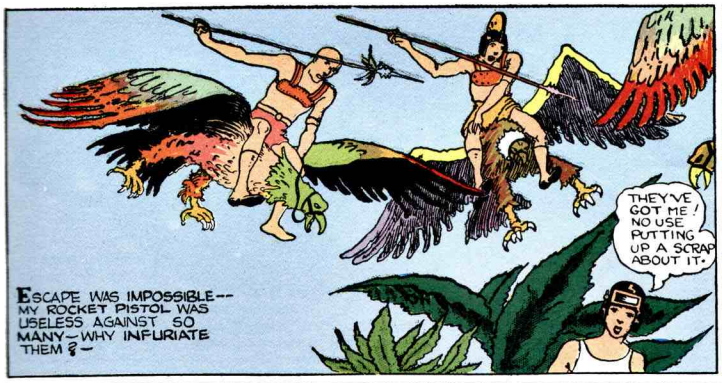

BUT AS WE PLUNGED INTO THOSE ROLLING, TWISTING CLOUD MASSES, THE CHIEF ENGINEER BROUGHT BAD NEWS--
THE GENERATOR HAS GONE SOUR, SIR - THERE'S ONLY TWO HOURS ROCKET-RESERVE, AND IT'LL TAKE SIX HOURS FOR REPAIRS.
THEN WE BETTER DRIFT DOWN AND LAND AT ONCE.
OH BUDDY, ISN'T THAT TAKING AN AWFUL CHANCE? WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE MIGHT FIND.

WE CAME DOWN ON AN AMAZING LANDSCAPE.
PLEASE, BUDDY! - WAIT UNTIL THE REPAIRS ARE MADE AND WE'LL EXPLORE WITH THE SHIP.
I WON'T GO FAR, ALURA. I'LL BE ALL RIGHT - NOTHING COULD CATCH ME WITH MY FLYING BELT!

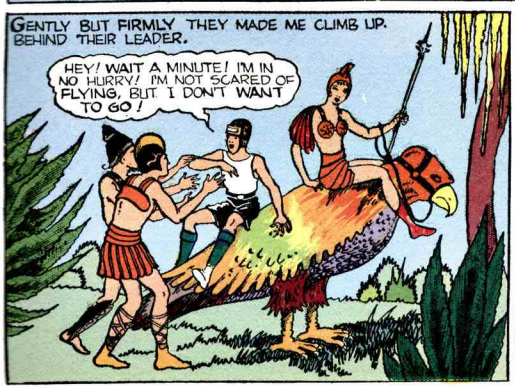


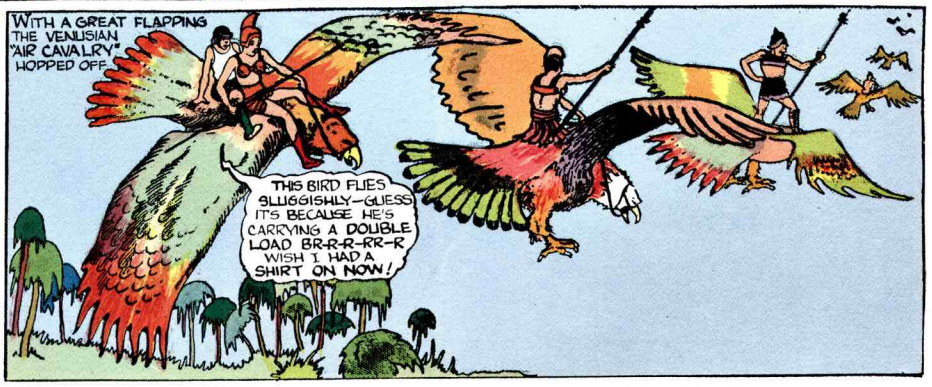

HERE I WAS ON THE DREAD MYSTERIOUS PLANET OF VENUS—WHOSE PERPETUAL LAYER OF HEAVY CLOUDS FOR AGES HAD HID THE SURFACE OF THIS STRANGE WORLD FROM EVEN THE MOST POWERFUL TELESCOPES OF EARTH— I WAS WITHOUT MOST OF MY EQUIPMENT, OWING TO THE HOT, STEAMY ATMOSPHERE— AND I WAS CUT OFF FROM OUR SPACE SHIP BY WARRIORS RIDING GIANT BIRDS!
BUCK ROGERS
2430 A.D.
BY PHIL NOWLAN AND DICK CALKINS

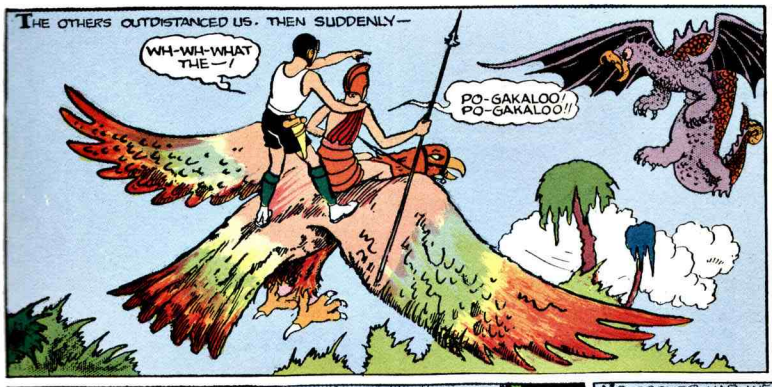
CAPTURED BY BIRD-RIDERS

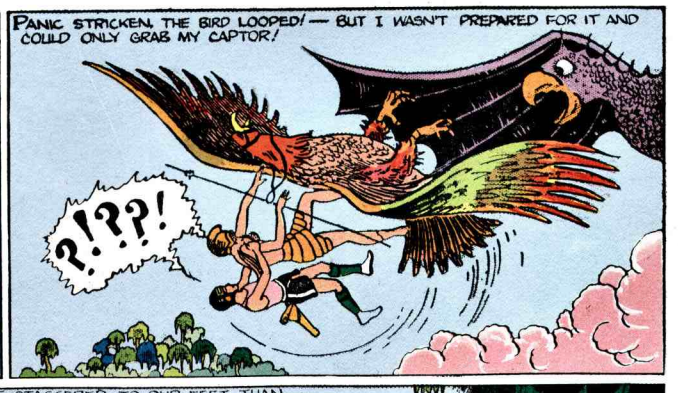

THEY'VE GOT ME! NO USE PUTTING UP A SCRAP ABOUT IT.
ESCAPE WAS IMPOSSIBLE-- MY ROCKET PISTOL WAS USELESS AGAINST SO MANY—WHY INFURIATE THEM?—

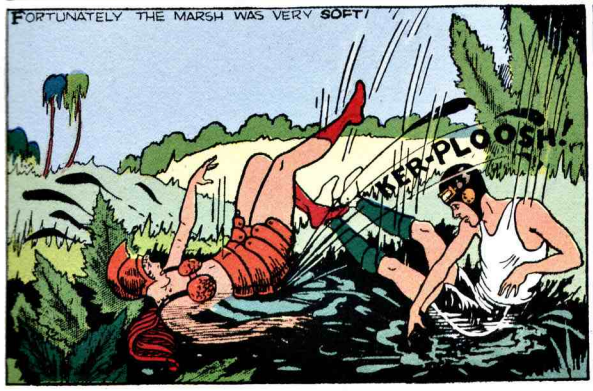
STRANGE TO SAY THEIR LEADER WAS A WOMAN
SHE SHOWED CURIOSITY BUT NO DISPOSITION TO GET ROUGH.
WELL, I GUESS I DO LOOK AS FUNNY TO YOU AS YOU DO TO ME!

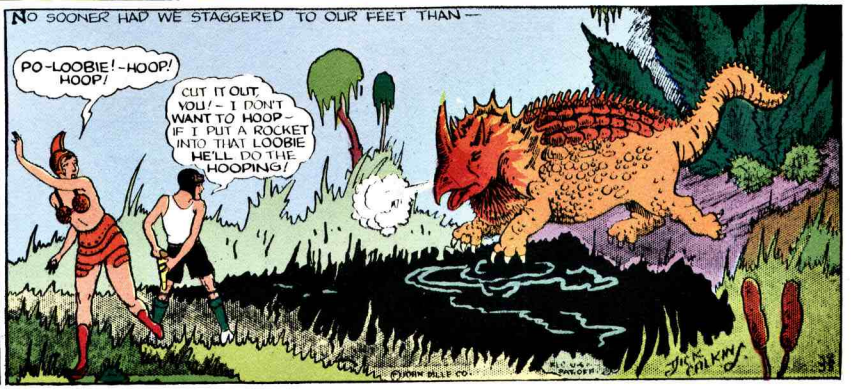

GENTLY BUT FIRMLY THEY MADE ME CLIMB UP. BEHIND THEIR LEADER.
HEY! WAIT A MINUTE! I'M IN NO HURRY! I'M NOT SCARED OF FLYING, BUT I DON'T WANT TO GO!


WITH A GREAT FLAPPING THE VENUSIAN "AIR CAVALRY" HOPPED OFF
THIS BIRD FLIES SLUGGISHLY—GUESS IT'S BECAUSE HE'S CARRYING A DOUBLE LOAD BR-R-R-RR-R WISH I HAD A SHIRT ON NOW!








NO SOONER HAD WE STAGGERED TO OUR FEET THAN—
PO-LOOBIE!-HOOP! HOOP!
CUT IT OUT, YOU!— I DON'T WANT TO HOOP— IF I PUT A ROCKET INTO THAT LOOBIE HE'LL DO THE HOOPING!
DICK CALKINS
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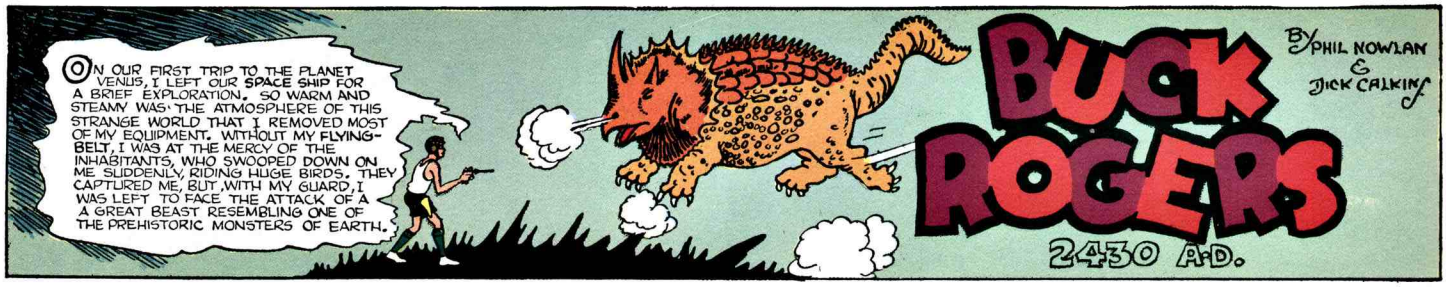
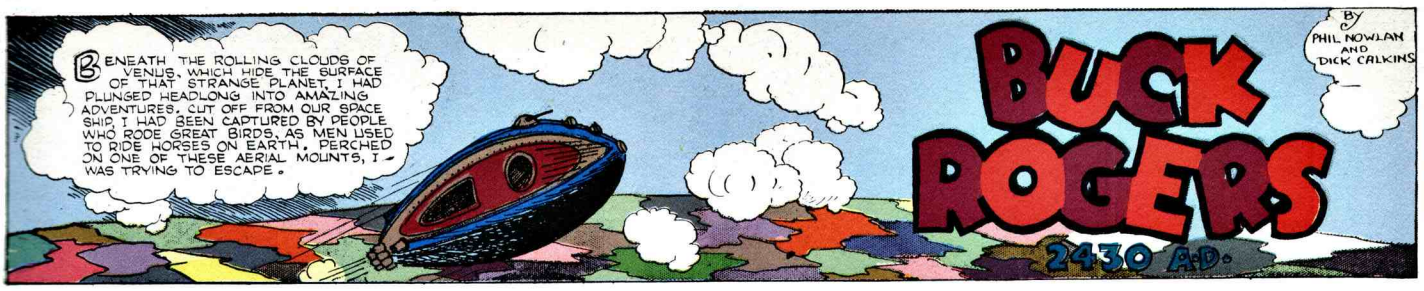
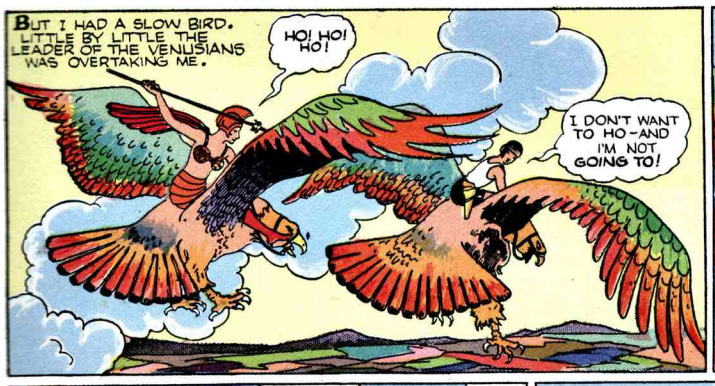

ON OUR FIRST TRIP TO THE PLANET VENUS, I LEFT OUR SPACE SHIP FOR A BRIEF EXPLORATION. SO WARM AND STEAMY WAS THE ATMOSPHERE OF THIS STRANGE WORLD THAT I REMOVED MOST OF MY EQUIPMENT. WITHOUT MY FLYING-BELT, I WAS AT THE MERCY OF THE INHABITANTS, WHO SWOOPED DOWN ON ME SUDDENLY, RIDING HUGE BIRDS. THEY CAPTURED ME, BUT, WITH MY GUARD, I WAS LEFT TO FACE THE ATTACK OF A A GREAT BEAST RESEMBLING ONE OF THE PREHISTORIC MONSTERS OF EARTH.
BUCK ROGERS
2430 A.D.
BY PHIL NOWLAN & DICK CALKINS

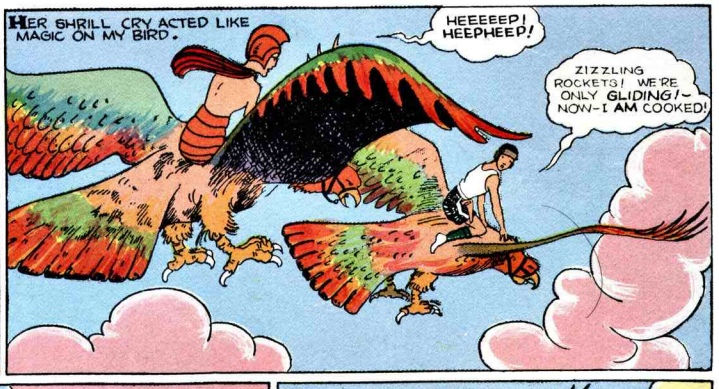
A BREAK FOR FREEDOM

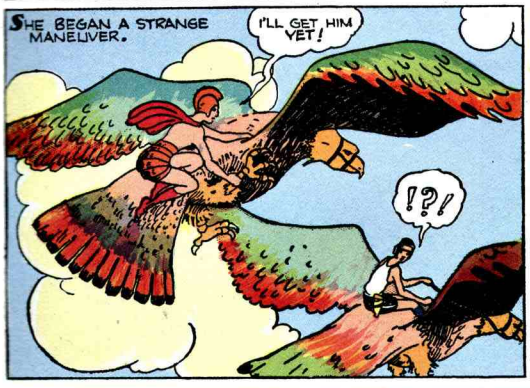
IT WAS A SMALL MATTER TO DESTROY THE BEAST WITH AN EXPLOSION ROCKET.
BAM!
HEY! WHAT'S THE MATTER? — WHAT ARE YOU SCARED OF?
AYCHEE ELPPY! AYCHEE ELPPY!
THE NOISE SCARED THE WITS OUT OF MY 'CAPTOR!
COME BACK HERE! I'M LOST — YOU MUST HELP ME FIND MY SHIP!
HEY! I'M NOT GOING TO HURT YOU! COME BACK HERE!
AYCHEE ELPPY—!
AT LAST I CAUGHT HER—
YOU SCARED OF THIS ROCKET PISTOL? — LOOK I'M PUTTING IT AWAY. WISH I COULD UNDERSTAND YOUR LANGUAGE.
GALULA! OH GALULA!
SUDDENLY THERE WAS A GREAT WHIRRING OF WINGS ABOVE US.
HO! HO!
IT'S THE OTHERS! THEY'VE COME BACK FOR US! THEY'LL JUMP ME NOW ALL RIGHT!
TO MY SURPRISE, INSTEAD OF JUMPING ON ME THEY TREATED ME LIKE SOME DEITY.
THEY MUST THINK I'M A HEATHEN IDOL OR SOMETHING.
HO! HO! HO! HO! HO! HOHOHO! HOHOHO!
BUT THOUGH TREATING ME WITH THE DEEPEST RESPECT, THEY FORCED ME TO MOUNT ONE OF THE BIRDS.
BUT I DON'T WANT TO RIDE THIS BIRD—
OH WELL, MAYBE I CAN STEER THE THING AND RUN AWAY FROM THEM.
AWAY WE FLAPPED TOWARD A DISTANT MOUNTAIN RANGE.
THIS BIRD DOES ANSWER HIS HELM! HERE'S WHERE I MAKE A BREAK!
I MADE A DESPERATE DASH FOR FREEDOM, BUT—
OOFAH!— THEY MUST HAVE GIVEN ME THE SLOWEST BIRD IN THE BUNCH! — NOW I AM IN FOR IT!
DICK CALKINS

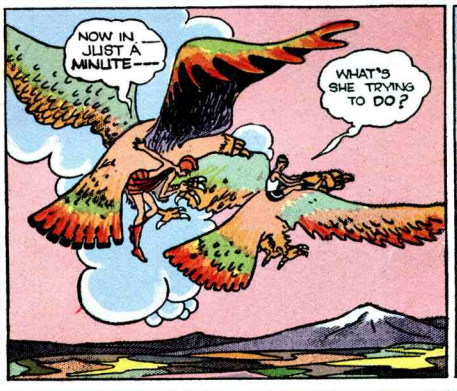

BENEATH THE ROLLING CLOUDS OF VENUS, WHICH HIDE THE SURFACE OF THAT STRANGE PLANET, I HAD PLUNGED HEADLONG INTO AMAZING ADVENTURES. CUT OFF FROM OUR SPACE SHIP, I HAD BEEN CAPTURED BY PEOPLE WHO RODE GREAT BIRDS, AS MEN USED TO RIDE HORSES ON EARTH. PERCHED ON ONE OF THESE AERIAL MOUNTS, I - WAS TRYING TO ESCAPE.
BUCK ROGERS
2430 A.D.
BY PHIL NOWLAN AND DICK CALKINS

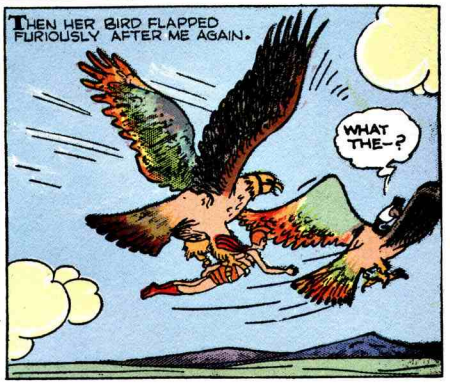
RECAPTURED

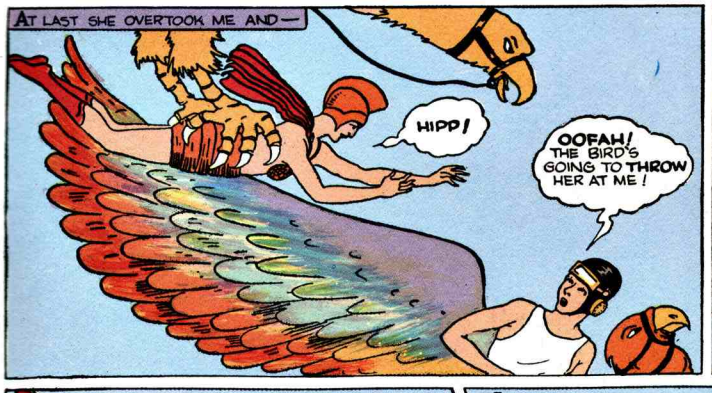

BUT I HAD A SLOW BIRD. LITTLE BY LITTLE THE LEADER OF THE VENUSIANS WAS OVERTAKING ME.
HO! HO! HO!
I DON'T WANT TO HO-AND I'M NOT GOING TO!

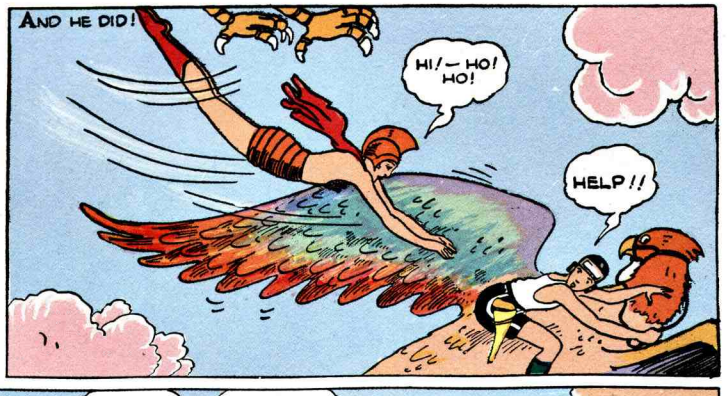

HER SHRILL CRY ACTED LIKE MAGIC ON MY BIRD.
HEEEEEP! HEEPHEEP!
ZIZZLING ROCKETS! WE'RE ONLY GLIDING!- NOW-I AM COOKED!

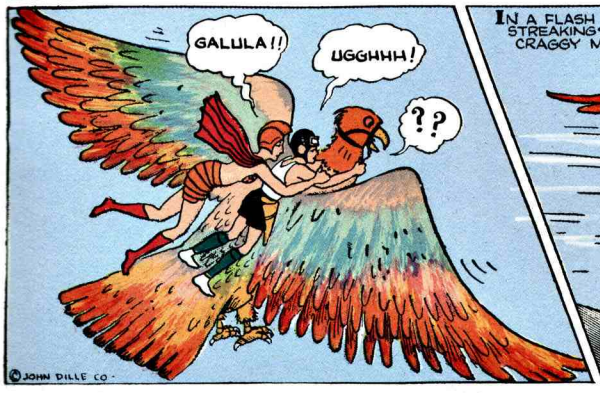

SHE BEGAN A STRANGE MANEUVER.
I'LL GET HIM YET!
!?!


NOW IN - JUST A MINUTE---
WHAT'S SHE TRYING TO DO?


THEN HER BIRD FLAPPED FURIOUSLY AFTER ME AGAIN.
WHAT THE-?


AT LAST SHE OVERTOOK ME AND—
HIPP!
OOFAH! THE BIRD'S GOING TO THROW HER AT ME!


AND HE DID!
HI!—HO! HO!
HELP!!


GALULA!!
UGGHHH!
??
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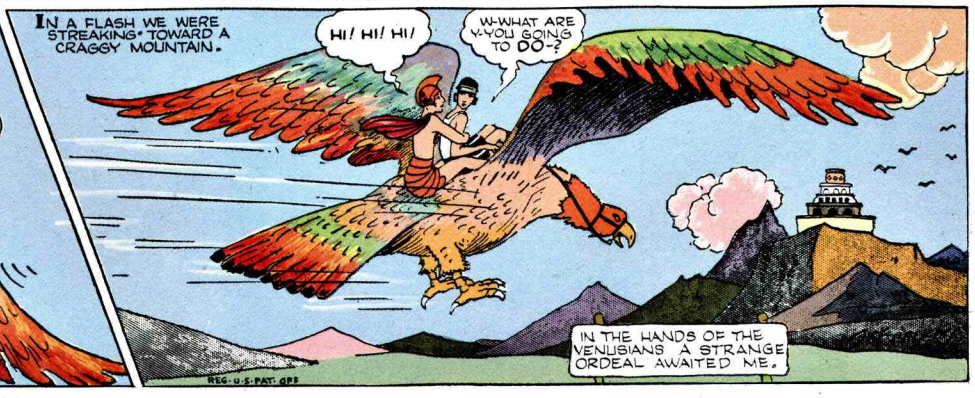
IN A FLASH WE WERE STREAKING TOWARD A CRAGGY MOUNTAIN.
HI! HI! HI!
W-WHAT ARE Y-YOU GOING TO DO-?
IN THE HANDS OF THE VENUSIANS A STRANGE ORDEAL AWAITED ME.
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

WE HAD LANDED OUR SPACE SHIP ON VENUS, BEING THE FIRST EARTHLINGS EVER TO SET FOOT ON THAT MYSTERIOUS PLANET. WHILE REPAIRS WERE BEING MADE TO THE SHIP'S GENERATORS I SET FORTH ALONE TO DO A LITTLE EXPLORING—THAT WAS WHERE I MADE MY **BIG MISTAKE**—I WAS CAPTURED BY STRANGE PEOPLE WHO RODE THE AIR ON GIANT BIRDS—AND HERE I WAS, A PRISONER, MINUS MY FLYING BELT AND MOST OF MY EQUIPMENT—.

BUCK ROGERS

2431 A.D.

THE QUEEN'S CHOICE

WE SOARED DOWN OVER A KIND OF CASTLE ON THE TOPMOST PEAK OF A CRAGGY MOUNTAIN.

PO KLAG ARRO DO BIEMOVI!

UH-HUH? I'LL HAVE TO TAKE **YOUR** WORD FOR IT-- I CAN'T SAVVY YOUR TALK AT ALL!

IT SEEMED THE **STABLE**, OR **BIRD-CAGE** OF THE CLAN WAS THE LOWEST FLOOR OF THE BUILDING.

DO WE HAVE TO HURRY LIKE THIS?

ISN'T HE WONDERFUL? I'M GOING TO KEEP HIM AROUND. I WONDER WHERE HE COMES FROM?

THE ENTRANCE TO THE CASTLE WAS APPARENTLY THROUGH THE "**BIRD STABLE**".

YEAH! NICE **STABLE** YOU HAVE HERE, BUT--

PO GALULA!

HIS SPEECH IS **SO** STRANGE --AND HE DOESN'T SEEM TO UNDERSTAND ME!

I HESITATED TO RADIO ALURA, AS I WAS IN NO IMMEDIATE DANGER, AND FEARED THAT AN ATTEMPTED RESCUE MIGHT PRECIPITATE HOSTILITIES. MEANTIME, BACK IN THE SPACE SHIP—

I CAN'T GET CONTACT ON THIS TELEVISION, DOCTOR. NO ANSWER! CAN BUDDY BE HURT?

QUEER! UM-M! VERY QUEER INDEED!

WHILE BACK AT THE BIRD HOUSE—

ON AN UPPER LEVEL, THE SOLDIER CLASS, OR THE **NOBILITY**, WERE TAKING THEIR EASE. MY CAPTOR ADDRESSED THEM IN HER PECULIARLY STRANGE LANGUAGE—

LOOK, NOBLES, WHAT I-ELOBIEM—HAVE BROUGHT HOME!

SHE'S INTRODUCING ME OR SOMETHING. I BETTER MAKE A BOW!

SUDDENLY THERE WAS A COMMOTION. IF ONLY I COULD HAVE UNDERSTOOD THEIR LANGUAGE.

WHAT NOW, ANCHEFF?—YOU FORGET YOURSELF!

BUT **I** AM TO MARRY YOU ELOBIEM, AND BE YOUR KING! AM I NOT THE BEST FIGHTER IN OUR CLAN?

NO, I AM THE BEST FIGHTER IN THE CLAN!

UGH! OWWW!

ELOBIEM TOOK ME TO THE **TOP** LEVEL—**THE SACRED LEVEL OF ROYALTY**—FOR SHE REALLY WAS THE **QUEEN** OF THIS BIRD-CLAN OF VENUSIANS. AND **THEN**—

AH GALULA!—PO GALULA!

NIX NIX!—NOW DON'T GET SOAPY!—I DON'T WANT TO BE ANY **KING!**—I WANT TO GET BACK TO MY SPACE SHIP!

DICK CALKINS—

I WANDERED AWAY FROM OUR SPACE SHIP WHEN WE LANDED ON THE PLANET VENUS, AND HAD BEEN CAPTURED BY A TRIBE OF BIEMOVI, AS THE BIRD-RIDING MEN OF THIS STRANGE WORLD CALLED THEMSELVES - THE WORST OF IT WAS THAT ELOBIEM, THEIR QUEEN, WANTED TO MARRY ME, AND GOT FIGHTING MAD WHEN I REFUSED.

Buddy Deering

BUCK ROGERS 2431 A.D.

By PHIL NOWLAN AND DICK CALKINS

THE DISASTROUS DUEL

I COULDN'T HIT A GIRL - BUT ELOBIEM HAD NO SCRUPLES ABOUT HITTING ME!

UGH!

ARRIU EMWY GALULA?

OOFAH! - WHAT A WALLOP! - IF YOU SOCK ME AGAIN I'M GOING TO FORGET MYSELF!

SUDDENLY HER MOOD CHANGED.

AH! AH! AH-H! GALULA MO!

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING - BUT - BUT IT'S EMBARRASSING!

ELOBIEM TURNED ME OVER TO AN OLD "WIZZARD" WHO TAUGHT ME THEIR LANGUAGE.

PO GLOGGOB!

OH YEAH? - I'VE ALWAYS BEEN USED TO CALLING THOSE THINGS TABLES!

WEEKS ELAPSED - AT LAST I COULD SPEAK THEIR TONGUE.

BUD-DEE! - WHAT DO YOU MEAN WHEN YOU SAY "ALURA" AND "ROCKET SHIP"

WHO? - ME? - WHY - ER - I - GUESS MY MIND WAS WANDERING.

ONE DAY ELOBIEM TOOK ME ON A "LOOBIE" HUNT.

WHY DO YOU HUNT THESE ANIMALS?

PO LOOBIE! HOOP HOOP!

TO EAT SILLY! YOU OUGHT TO KNOW - YOU'VE BEEN EATING LOOBIE STEW FOR WEEKS - AND ENJOYING IT!

BUT THERE WAS ONE WARRIOR WHO RESENTED ELOBIEM'S INTEREST IN ME.

SO! - OUT LOOBIE-HUNTING WITH YOUR NEW SWEETIE AGAIN - HUH?

WH-WHAT? - HEY! - NIX! YOU'VE GOT NO REASON TO BE JEALOUS OF ME!

OOOO! - LALALAH! - YOU'RE JUST JEALOUS! - WELL - YOU SHALL FIGHT A DUEL WITH HIM THEN!

HE RUSHED AT ME - THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING TO DO - I DID IT!

OH BUDDY! - YOU SWEET-DARLING WARRIOR!

WELL, IF YOU MUST HAVE IT - TRY THIS ONE ON YOUR PIANO!

HE RUSHED ME AGAIN - MY FOOT SLIPPED -

BUDDY! - LOOK OUT!

OOFAH!

DOWN I PLUNGED - TOWARD JAGGED ROCKS - THOUSANDS OF FEET BELOW.

??

JACK CALKINS

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BUCK ROGERS

2431 A.D.

By — PHIL NOWLAN AND DICK CALKINS

FLYING GHARKAS AND JUNGLE MEN

WHEN OUR SPACE SHIP FIRST LANDED ON THE PLANET VENUS, I FOOLISHLY LEFT IT TO DO A BIT OF SOLO EXPLORING — IT WAS OPPRESSIVELY HOT AND HUMID AND I REMOVED SOME OF MY CLOTHING FOR COMFORT — BEFORE I COULD PUT ON MY FLYING BELT AGAIN I WAS SUDDENLY ASSAILED AND CAPTURED BY A STRANGE RACE OF PEOPLE WHO RODE GIANT BIRDS LIKE FLYING HORSES — ELOBIEM, THEIR QUEEN, TOOK ME OFF TO THEIR MOUNTAIN-TOP CASTLE, WHERE A FIGHT WAS FORCED UPON ME BY ONE OF HER SUITORS WHO WAS JEALOUS OF HER INTEREST IN ME — IN THE STRUGGLE MY FOOT SLIPPED, AND I PLUNGED DOWN THE FACE OF THE PERPENDICULAR CLIFF ——————→

JUST LIKE THE NETS THEY USE IN A CIRCUS!

I LANDED IN A TANGLED GROWTH OF GIANT FERNS. THEY BROKE MY FALL.

SWIFTLY I SLIPPED AWAY THROUGH THE GIGANTIC BEAN VINES BEYOND.

A CHANCE TO **ESCAPE!** — FIND MY **FLYING BELT!** — AND GET BACK TO THE **SPACE SHIP!**

AT LENGTH I CAME TO A SWAMP — AND **DRAGGED** THROUGH IT

IT'S **TOUGH GOING** ALL RIGHT — BUT I'M **SURE** OF THE DIRECTION.

FARTHER ON THE VEGETATION WAS EVEN MORE AMAZING.

GOSH! THESE LOOK JUST LIKE GIANT **STRAWBERRIES!** — WHAT A CRAZY, OVERGROWN PLANET THIS IS!

IN THE END I REACHED THE GLADE WHERE I HAD LEFT MY FLYING BELT — HANGING **UPWARD!**

HOO-RAY! — IT'S STILL **THERE!** — AND NOBODY'S TOUCHED IT!

INSTANTLY I STRAPPED THE FLYING BELT ON, AND ZEEPED FOR THE SPOT WHERE I HAD LEFT THE **SPACE SHIP,** BUT——

WH-WHY, THE SHIP IS **GONE!**

IN MY RADIOPHONE I HEARD A CALL — FAINT — AND **RECEDING!**

IT'S THE **SHIP**—— BUT IT'S GOING **AWAY** FROM ME — I HAVE NO **DIRECTION FINDER** — AND — AND MY—— **TRANSMITTER HAS GONE DEAD!**

FOR DAYS I FLEW — FRANTICALLY, HOPELESSLY SEARCHING FOR OUR **SPACE SHIP** — HAD IT HEADED BACK TO **EARTH** WITHOUT ME? — AT LENGTH ——

HULLO! **SMOKE!** THAT MEANS **MEN** AND — OOFAH!! — **FLYING GHARKAS!** I'VE HEARD ABOUT THEM!

BEFORE I KNEW IT——

THESE THINGS ARE **INTELLIGENT!** — THEY — THEY'RE **TRYING** TO **CAPTURE** ME! — OOFAH! LET GO OF ME! — YOU — YOU GHARKAS!

WH-WH-WHAT— WH-WH-WHO — I MEAN — ER — **GOSH!** WHAT HAVE I GOT INTO!!!

GENTLY THE FLYING GHARKAS SET ME DOWN IN THE MIDST OF AN ASTOUNDING SCENE —.

DICK CALKINS

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BUCK ROGERS 2431 A.D.

By PHIL NOWLAN AND DICK CALKINS

NEVER DID ANY LAD ON EARTH HAVE SUCH WILD ADVENTURES AS WERE MINE AFTER OUR SPACE SHIP LANDED ON THE PLANET VENUS. AND I GOT LOST—ELOBIEM, QUEEN OF THE BIRD-RIDERS OF THAT STRANGE WORLD, WANTED TO MAKE ME HER KING, BUT I ESCAPED—ONLY TO FALL IN WITH ANOTHER RACE, THE JUNGLE FOLK, WHOSE HABITS AND CUSTOMS WERE MOST EXTRAORDINARY.

TRAILED BY BIRD-QUEEN

I STAYED MANY DAYS WITH THE JUNGLE FOLK.

I MIGHT AS WELL STICK AROUND!

YOU CAME FROM "ANOTHER WORLD," CALLED "EARTH"—UP "THERE"? HOW CAN THERE BE GROUND ABOVE THE CLOUDS?

FOR FOOD THEY CLIMBED THE TALL, SLIM, ASPARAGUS-LIKE TREES———

—AND SLICED OFF THE TIPS.

I AMAZED THEM WITH MY EFFORTLESS LEAPS TO THE TREE TOPS.

MY FLYING BELT HAS THEM GUESSING!

THEIR FLYING ANIMALS—GHARKAS THEY CALLED THEM—WERE TRAINED TO HUNT.

THERE'S GAME IN THAT FIELD—WATCH HIM GET IT!

HMMM!—SOMETHING LIKE A FALCON ON EARTH IN THE MIDDLE AGES!

THE GHARKA WOULD STREAK FOR ITS QUARRY.

EEEEEK

OOONNNK

SO THERE WAS ALWAYS PLENTY OF MEAT.

YOU GOT BACK QUICKLY!

IT WAS EASY

WHEN GIANT MONSTERS FROM THE SWAMP LANDS THREATENED———

THE GHARKAS WOULD SWARM ABOUT THEIR EYES, BLINDING THEM AND DRIVING THEM OFF.

BUT A CRISIS CAME ONE DAY WITH A WHIRRING OF GREAT WINGS——

IT'S THE BIRD-RIDERS!

ARE THEY VISITING—OR RAIDING US?

THIS LOOKS LIKE COMPLICATIONS!

I, ELOBIEM, QUEEN OF THE BIEMOVI CLAN ARRO, DEMAND THAT YOU GIVE ME THAT BOY—HE IS MY GALULA!

WHAT! HIM A BIRD-RIDER?—NO NO! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT—STILL—YET—

—AND I'M NO GALULA EITHER!—FLYING BELT, DO YOUR STUFF!!

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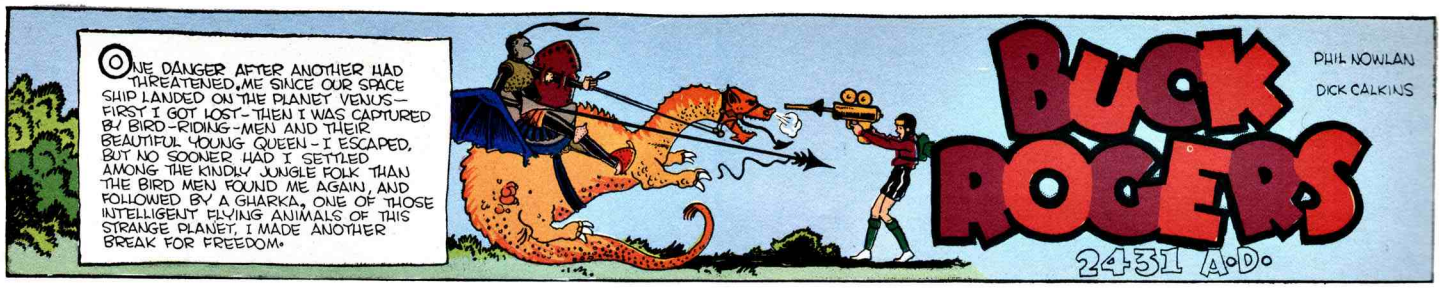
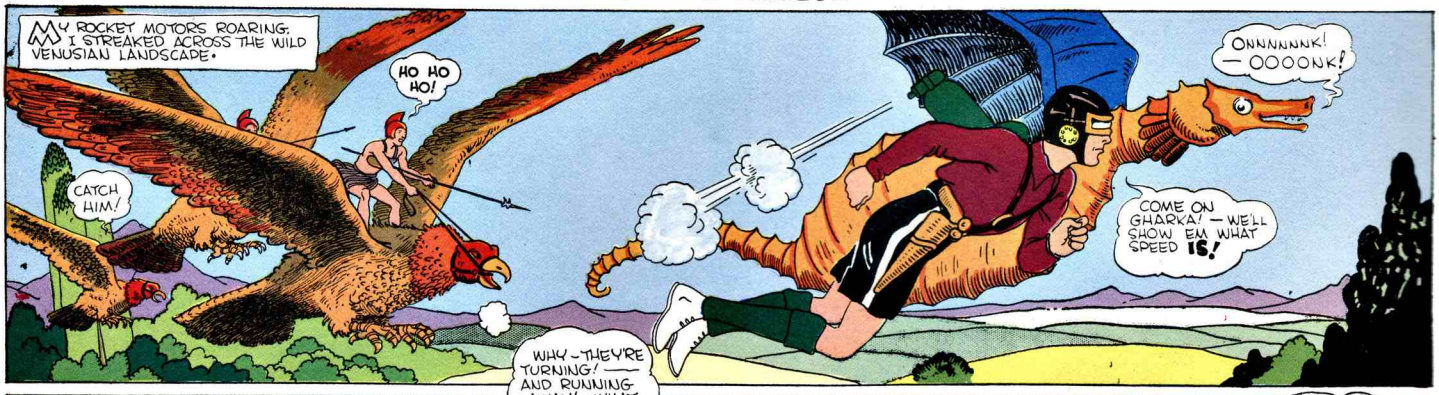
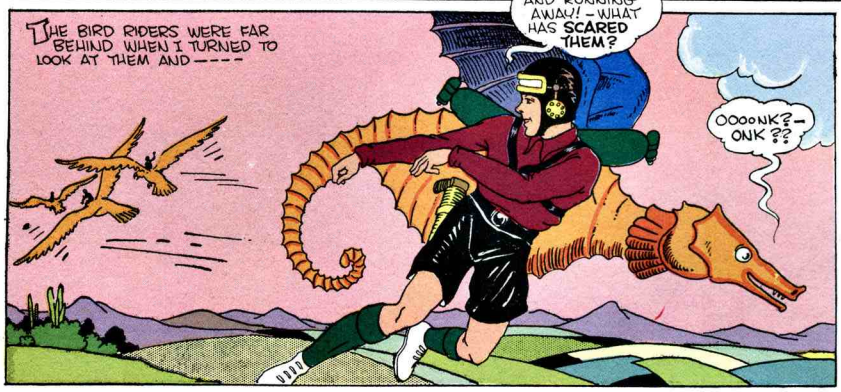
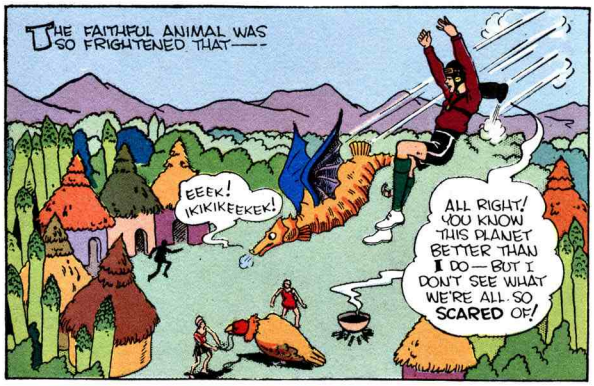
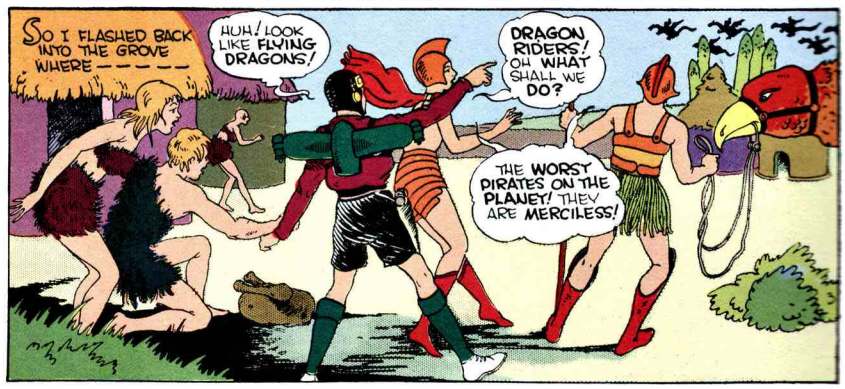

ONE DANGER AFTER ANOTHER HAD THREATENED ME SINCE OUR SPACE SHIP LANDED ON THE PLANET VENUS — FIRST I GOT LOST — THEN I WAS CAPTURED BY BIRD-RIDING-MEN AND THEIR BEAUTIFUL YOUNG QUEEN — I ESCAPED, BUT NO SOONER HAD I SETTLED AMONG THE KINDLY JUNGLE FOLK THAN THE BIRD MEN FOUND ME AGAIN, AND FOLLOWED BY A GHARKA, ONE OF THOSE INTELLIGENT FLYING ANIMALS OF THIS STRANGE PLANET, I MADE ANOTHER BREAK FOR FREEDOM.
BUCK ROGERS
24311 A.D.
PHIL NOWLAN
DICK CALKINS

THE RAID OF THE DRAGON-RIDERS


MY ROCKET MOTORS ROARING, I STREAKED ACROSS THE WILD VENUSIAN LANDSCAPE.
HO HO HO!
CATCH HIM!
ONNNNNNK! — OOOONK!
COME ON GHARKA! — WE'LL SHOW EM WHAT SPEED IS!
WHY — THEY'RE TURNING! — AND RUNNING AWAY! — WHAT HAS SCARED THEM?




THE FAITHFUL ANIMAL WAS SO FRIGHTENED THAT ----
EEEK! IKIKIKEEKEK!
ALL RIGHT! YOU KNOW THIS PLANET BETTER THAN I DO — BUT I DON'T SEE WHAT WE'RE ALL SO SCARED OF!

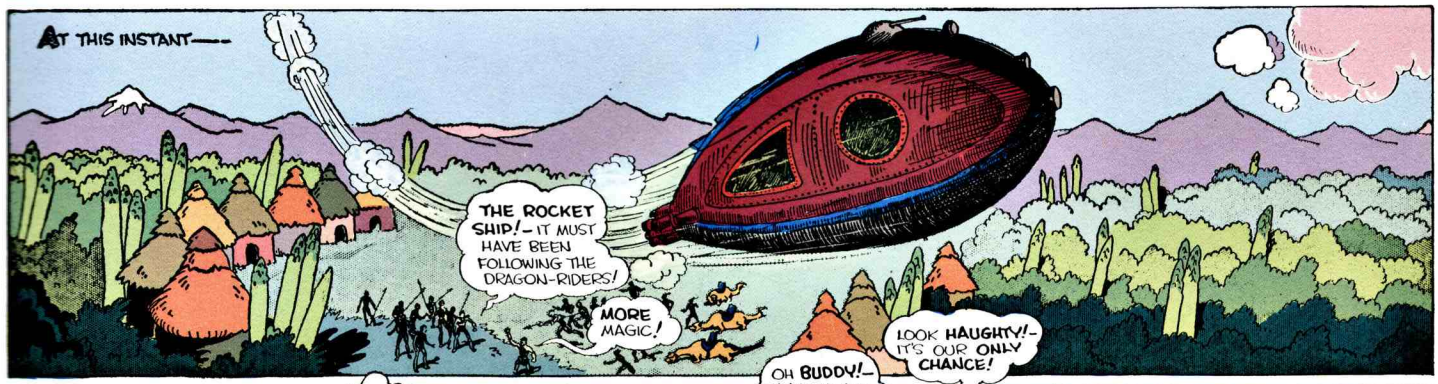

SO I FLASHED BACK INTO THE GROVE WHERE ----
HUH! LOOK LIKE FLYING DRAGONS!
DRAGON RIDERS! OH WHAT SHALL WE DO?
THE WORST PIRATES ON THE PLANET! THEY ARE MERCILESS!

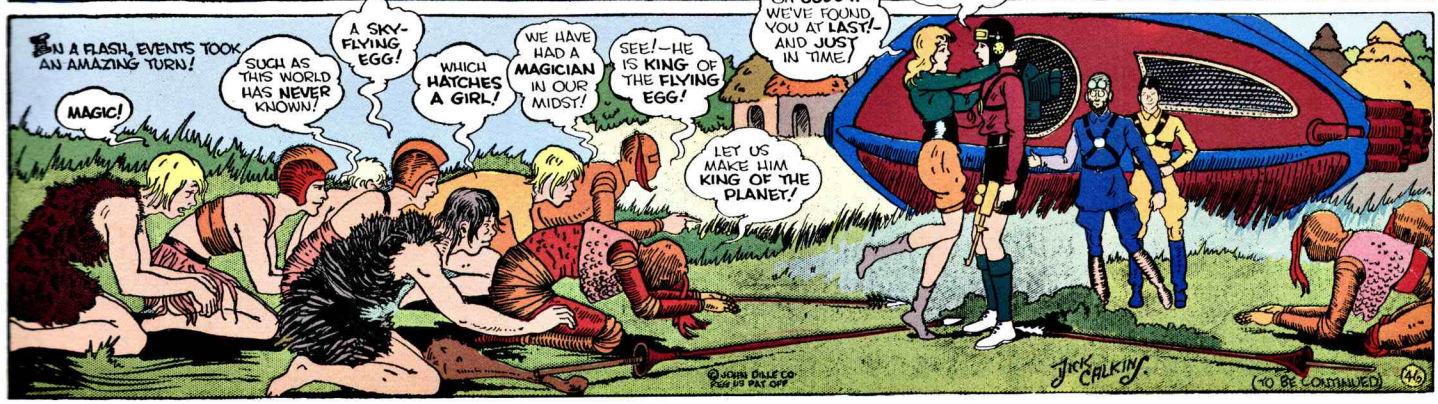
IN AN INSTANT THE DRAGON RIDERS WERE SWEEPING DOWN ON US IN AN OVERWHELMING HORDE!
WE HAVEN'T A CHANCE!!
AND WE CAN'T OUT FLY THEM!
THEN LET'S FIGHT 'EM!
DICK CALKINS

WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERPLANETARY NAVIGATION I HAD HAD AMAZING ADVENTURES ON MARS—AND ON PLUTO, THE PLANET BEYOND NEPTUNE—BUT EVEN MORE ASTOUNDING DANGERS HAD BESET ME ON VENUS, THE MOST MYSTERIOUS PLANET OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM—LOST FROM MY ROCKET SHIP, I WAS CAPTURED FIRST BY BIRD-RIDERS, THEN BY JUNGLE FOLK—JUST AS A BATTLE IMPENDED BETWEEN THE TWO RACES FOR POSSESSION OF ME, WE WERE ALL ATTACKED BY THE TERRIBLE DRAGON RIDERS.
HO, VARLET! BRING US A QUART OF ICE CREAM!
BUCK ROGERS
2431 A.D.
BY PHIL NOWLAN AND DICK CALKINS

ROCKET SHIP TO RESCUE

ON SWEPT THE DRAGON WARRIORS!—I FIRED!—THE EFFECT WAS DEVASTATING!
HA! MAGIC!
I GUESS THIS ROCKET PISTOL FROM GOOD OLD EARTH WILL HOLD 'EM!
BLAM!
I DOUBT IT!


AT THIS INSTANT—
THE ROCKET SHIP!—IT MUST HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THE DRAGON-RIDERS!
MORE MAGIC!
LOOK HAUGHTY!—IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!


IN A FLASH, EVENTS TOOK AN AMAZING TURN!
MAGIC!
SUCH AS THIS WORLD HAS NEVER KNOWN!
A SKY-FLYING EGG!
WHICH HATCHES A GIRL!
WE HAVE HAD A MAGICIAN IN OUR MIDST!
SEE!—HE IS KING OF THE FLYING EGG!
LET US MAKE HIM KING OF THE PLANET!
OH BUDDY!—WE'VE FOUND YOU AT LAST!—AND JUST IN TIME!
JICK CALKINS
(TO BE CONTINUED)
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BUCK ROGERS 2431 AD

Written by — PHIL NOWLAN

THE REIGN OF SCIENCE

Drawn by — DICK CALKINS

BY A STRANGE TWIST OF FATE, AFTER FACING A SERIES OF DESPERATE DANGERS ON THAT AMAZING PLANET, VENUS, — ALURA, PRINCESS OF MARS, AND I, BUDDY DEERING OF EARTH, HAD BEEN ENTHUSIASTICALLY HAILED BY THE VENUSIANS AS KING AND QUEEN OF THEIR ENTIRE PLANET.

ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS WE DID — WITH THE AID OF THE SCIENTISTS OF OUR ROCKET SHIP — WAS TO BUILD AN **ELECTRONO POWER PLANT.**

SEE HOW HARD THEY'RE WORKING

BUT THE DUMBBELLS HAVEN'T FOLLOWED THE PLANS!

WE MUST BE TOLERANT. BLUE-PRINTS ARE NEW TO THEM.

WE STARTED THE PRODUCTION OF **FLYING BELTS** AND **LIFTERS** AT ONCE.

OUR BELOVED SUBJECTS SEEM TICKLED WITH THE **ANTI-GRAVITY DEVICES.**

LIKE A BUNCH OF KIDS — AREN'T THEY!

THE ANTI-GRAVITY **LIFTERS** MADE EASY THE CONSTRUCTION OF OUR MAGNIFICENT **ROYAL PALACE.**

OGGLY WOGGO GULI MOGG

WHEN IT WAS FINISHED WE SURROUNDED IT FOR PROTECTION WITH THE FORCE RAYS ABOUT WHICH THE INHABITANTS OF SATURN HAD TAUGHT US.

IT'S A GOOD THING WE **DID!** THOSE TERRIBLE BEAST ROAM WILD ALL OVER THIS PLANET!

HAHA! **THAT** ONE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT STRUCK HIM!

AND YOU, ELORIEM, SHALL BE **CAPTAIN OF THE QUEEN'S GUARD!**

YOUR MAJESTY WILL FIND US LOYAL UNTO DEATH!

ALURA RECRUITED A COMPANY OF GIRLS AND EQUIPPED THEM WITH **FLYING BELTS.**

IT HAD **FLYING BELTS** BUILT INTO THE ARMOR OF THE DRAGON-RIDERS.

LOOK! THE **KING'S GUARD!**

AND THE KING LEADS THEM! I THINK HE'S **GRAND!**

EVERYTHING WAS READY FOR OUR CORONATION WHEN —

YOUR MAJESTY! A STRANGE FLEET OF WATER-CRAFT IS APPROACHING THE COAST!

HUH? WE'LL FLY OUT AND LOOK 'EM OVER!

OOFAH! — GREAT PLATFORMS ON IMMENSE PONTOONS! — SAILING SHIPS WITH **HINGED YARD ARMS — WHO** ARE **THEY?** WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?

THEY'RE AS MUCH OF A **MYSTERY** TO **US** AS TO YOUR MAJESTY — BUT THEY LOOK **HOSTILE TO ME** — WHAT SHALL WE DO?

DICK CALKINS

BUCK ROGERS 2431 AD

— PHIL NOWLAN

THE CORONATION

— DICK CALKINS

ALL PLANS HAD BEEN MADE FOR THE CORONATION OF MYSELF AND ALURA AS KING AND QUEEN OF THAT AMAZING PLANET, VENUS, WHEN WORD CAME OF A STRANGE FLEET OF SHIPS BUILT ON PONTOONS, SAILING CRAFT WITH HINGED YARD-ARMS. WE KNEW NOT WHENCE THEY CAME - NOR WHETHER THEIR INTENTIONS WERE FRIENDLY OR HOSTILE.
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF VENUS THAT OUR THREE MILE LIMIT HAS BEEN INVADED!
WELL, THEY'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE! WHOEVER THEY ARE!
OH, BUDDY BE CAREFUL! MAYBE THEY'RE HOSTILE!
I'LL FIND OUT WHAT THEY MEAN BY THIS INSOLENCE!
SAY, WHAT'S THE IDEA OF BRINGING YOUR FUNNY SHIPS INTO OUR WATERS, HUH?
WE ARE ON A MISSION OF PEACE, OH BIRDMAN!
WELL, LAND ONE SHIP-LOAD AT A TIME. ANY MONKEY WORK AND WE'LL BLOW YOU OUT OF WATER!
YOU'RE WISHES SHALL BE HEEDED. WE START DISEMBARKING AT ONCE!
THE WARRIORS LEAPED INTO THE WATER AND WADED ASHORE.
STRANGE PEOPLE!
YES, AND WHAT FUNNY LOOKING SPEARS THEY CARRY!
AND THE SAILORS FOLLOWED THE WARRIORS.
SO THAT'S HOW THEY DIVIDE UP!
THE WOMEN ARE SAILORS WHILE THE MEN ARE SOLDIERS, HUH?
WE ARE AROMAKS FROM ACROSS THE BOILING EQUATORIAL SEA— BEARING GIFTS FOR THE GREAT MAGICIANS WHO RIDE THE AIR IN THEIR FLYING EGG- WE COME TO BEG THEIR AID AND-
SH! THIS IS HIS MAJESTY HERE. I AM CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD!
WE'LL CONSIDER HIS PROPOSAL LATER. IT IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO THE PEOPLE OF VENUS THAT OUR CORONATION BE COMPLETED IMMEDIATELY. THESE AROMAKS MAY ATTEND.
HEY! ALURA! - LOOK REGAL, CAN'T YOU?
I CAN'T BUDDY! MY- MY NOSE TICKLES!
AND SO - AT OUR CORONATION - ALURA AND I RECEIVED THE HOMAGE OF THE STRANGE AND VARIED RACES OF THIS ASTOUNDING PLANET.
LITTLE DID WE IMAGINE THE PERILOUS ADVENTURES THAT AWAITED US ON OUR FORTHCOMING TOUR OF OUR PLANETARY KINGDOM!
DICK CALKINS
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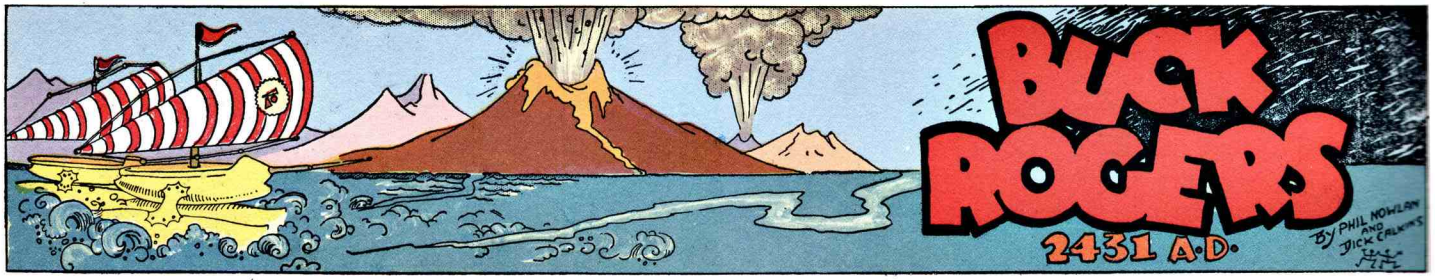


THE WIRE WALKERS

So great had been the development of **SCIENCE** on earth by the **25TH CENTURY** that when we first **ROCKETED THROUGH THE VOIDS OF SPACE** and landed on that amazing planet, **VENUS**, its inhabitants regarded us as **SUPERIOR BEINGS** – they insisted that I, **BUDDY DEERING**, brother of **WILMA** and friend of **BUCK ROGERS**, should become their king – and Alura, the little Martian princess who shared our **INTERPLANETARY ADVENTURE**, also shared my throne. There were noble and **PICTURESQUE RACES** among our loyal subjects, including ▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲

The lords of the flying dragons – fierce armored fighters who rode the air on strange beasts ——

EEP EEP

The gentle jungleers, who used winged gharkas as watch dogs ——

The Biemovi, or eagle riders of the tropics ——

And the Aromaks from across the **BOILING EQUATORIAL SEA** with their strange weapons.

Whom shall we visit **FIRST BUDDY?**

Right after our coronation, we decided to make a tour of our kingdom.

The **AROMAKS** – I'm **AWFULLY** curious about that **BOILING SEA** they speak of.

So we marched down toward the coasy.

Drifting along on these flying belts beats walking!

Sure does!

We embarked on the strange pontoon sailing ships with the hinged yardarms.

Later – at sea ---

When do we reach this **BOILING SEA?**

Soon, now, oh king. – It covers the equator – where the **FLAMING ISLANDS** are.

The next morning ——

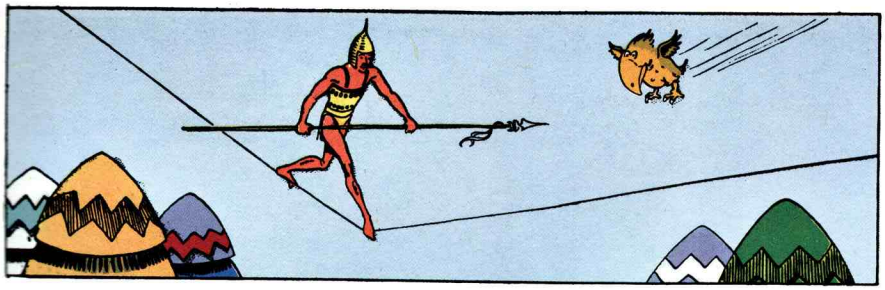
The water **REALLY** is boiling! — and "**FLAMING ISLANDS**" – I see – **VOLCANOES!**

Sometimes they **EXPLODE** from **STEAM** pressure – destroy **EVERYTHING** for vast distances.

Oh! – **OH! THAT** one's going to explode **NOW!**

DICK CALKINS

(TO BE CONTINUED)



BUCK ROGERS 2431 A.D.

By PHIL NOWLAN AND DICK CALKINS

THE WIRE WALKERS

I HAD BEEN MADE KING OF THE PLANET VENUS - AND ALURA WAS QUEEN BUT WE MET WITH DISASTER ON OUR VERY FIRST ATTEMPT TO CROSS THE **BOILING EQUATORIAL SEA** TO VISIT THE LAND OF THE AROMAKS — Buddy Deering

THE VOLCANO **EXPLODED!**

THAT'S THE **TROUBLE** WITH THESE **FLAMING ISLANDS!**

OOFAH

I'M GLAD WE'RE NO **CLOSER!**

HUGE ROCKS SHOWERED ALL ABOUT US! WE TOOK REFUGE BELOW THE ARMORED DECK -

LISTEN TO THAT RACKET!

OUCH! MY EARDRUMS!

BAMM!

I HOPE THEY MISS THE MAST!

SUDDENLY A STORM SWEPT DOWN ON US.

FOLD SAILS

A HURRICANE

CAUSED BY THAT VOLCANIC ERUPTION.

OUR SHIPS HEELED OVER UNDER THE BLAST.

GRAB SOMETHING!

I CAN'T - ONLY YOU!

LIGHT AS FEATHERS IN OUR **FLYING BELTS**, ALURA AND I WERE SWEPT AWAY.

OUR ROCKET MOTORS WERE **FUTILE** - IN THE **HOWLING GLOOM** - OVER THE **BOILING SEA.**

WE WOULDN'T **DARE** DESCEND -

EVEN IF WE **COULD!**

UP THROUGH THE STORM FLASHED A SUDDEN RED GLOW - A BLAST OF **HEAT.**

OOFAH! - WHAT'S **THAT?**

WE'RE PASSING **RIGHT OVER** A VOLCANO, I BET!

THEN THE STORM CLEARED.

ANOTHER **VOLCANO!** - FLY **AROUND** IT BUDDY!

NO - IT'S A **DEAD** CRATER - WE'LL LOOK OVER THE RIM.

INSIDE THE CRATER THERE WAS A **CITY** - BUT WHAT AN **AMAZING ONE!!!**

WHAT **FUNNY BUILDINGS!**

AND MEN RUNNING ALL OVER **ON WIRES!!!** - IT'S **UNBELIEVABLE!**

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JACK CALKINS

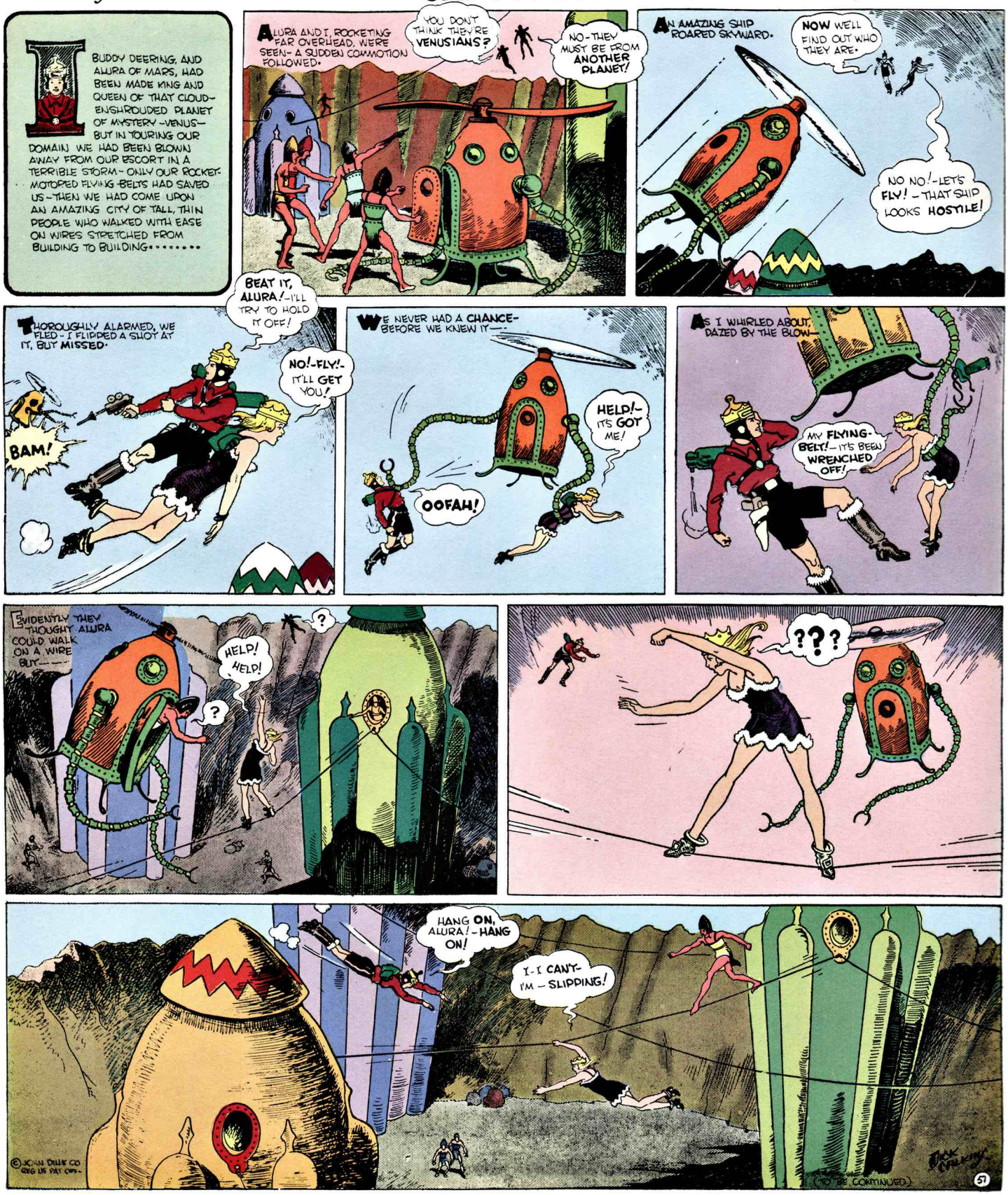
(TO BE CONTINUED)

BUCK ROGERS 2431 AD

CAPTURED!

Written by PHIL NOWLAN

Drawn by DICK CALKINS


I BUDDY DEERING, AND ALURA OF MARS, HAD BEEN MADE KING AND QUEEN OF THAT CLOUD-ENSHROUDED PLANET OF MYSTERY -VENUS- BUT IN TOURING OUR DOMAIN WE HAD BEEN BLOWN AWAY FROM OUR ESCORT IN A TERRIBLE STORM - ONLY OUR ROCKET-MOTORED FLYING-BELTS HAD SAVED US - THEN WE HAD COME UPON AN AMAZING CITY OF TALL, THIN PEOPLE WHO WALKED WITH EASE ON WIRES STRETCHED FROM BUILDING TO BUILDING.....
ALURA AND I, ROCKETING FAR OVERHEAD, WERE SEEN - A SUDDEN COMMOTION FOLLOWED.
YOU DON'T THINK THEY'RE VENUSIANS?
NO - THEY MUST BE FROM ANOTHER PLANET!
AN AMAZING SHIP ROARED SKYWARD.
NOW WE'LL FIND OUT WHO THEY ARE.
NO NO! - LET'S FLY! - THAT SHIP LOOKS HOSTILE!
THOROUGHLY ALARMED, WE FLED - I FLIPPED A SHOT AT IT, BUT MISSED.
BEAT IT, ALURA! - I'LL TRY TO HOLD IT OFF!
NO! - FLY! - IT'LL GET YOU!
BAM!
WE NEVER HAD A CHANCE - BEFORE WE KNEW IT -
HELP! - IT'S GOT ME!
OOFAH!
AS I WHIRLED ABOUT, DAZED BY THE BLOW -
MY FLYING-BELT! - IT'S BEEN WRENCHED OFF!
EVIDENTLY THEY THOUGHT ALURA COULD WALK ON A WIRE BUT -
HELP! HELP!
?
??
HANG ON, ALURA! - HANG ON!
I - I CAN'T - I'M - SLIPPING!
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(TO BE CONTINUED)
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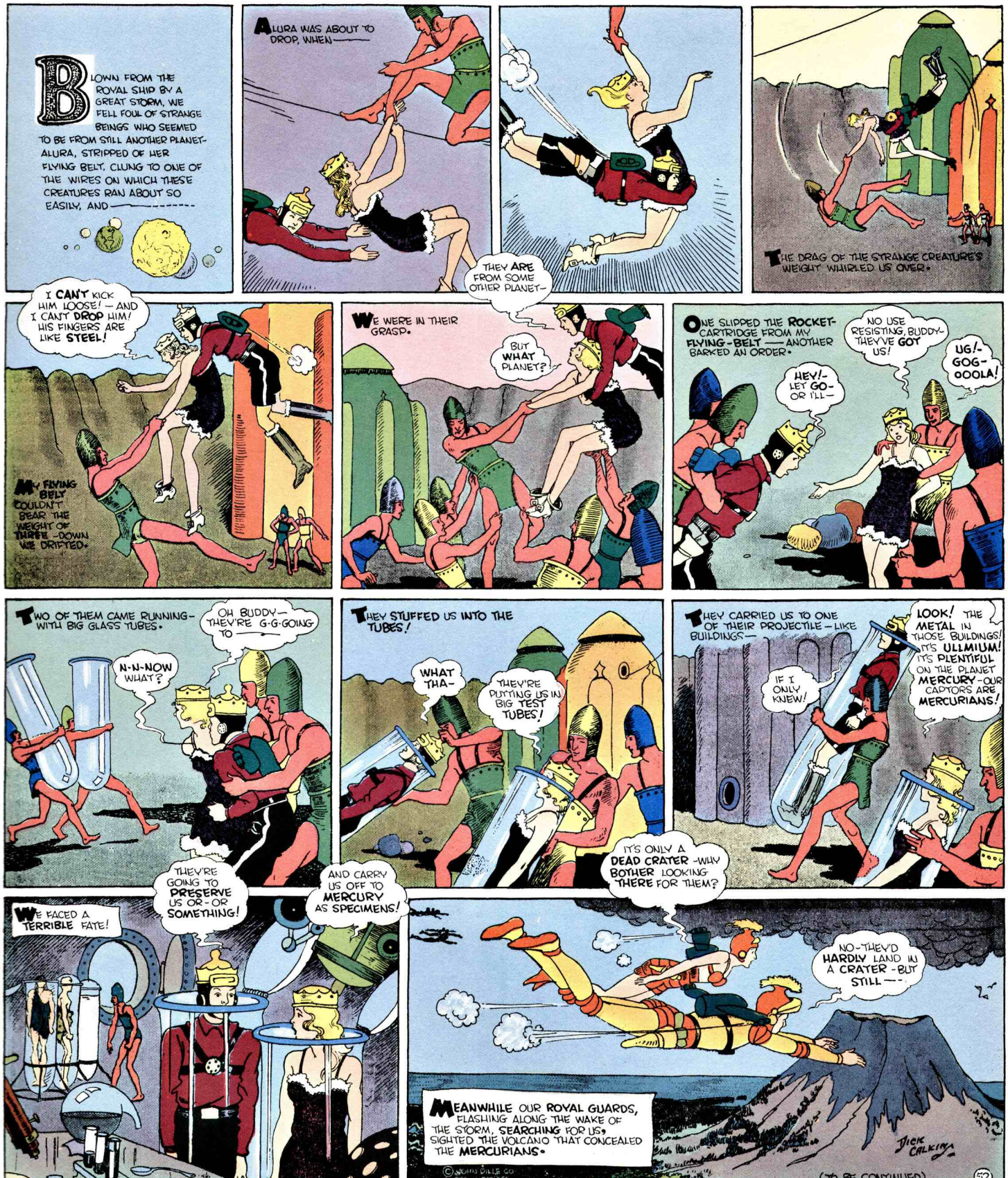
BUCK ROGERS 2431 AD

HELD AS "SPECIMENS"


BLOWN FROM THE ROYAL SHIP BY A GREAT STORM, WE FELL FOUL OF STRANGE BEINGS WHO SEEMED TO BE FROM STILL ANOTHER PLANET- ALURA, STRIPPED OF HER FLYING BELT, CLUNG TO ONE OF THE WIRES ON WHICH THESE CREATURES RAN ABOUT SO EASILY, AND——
ALURA WAS ABOUT TO DROP, WHEN——
THEY ARE FROM SOME OTHER PLANET-
THE DRAG OF THE STRANGE CREATURE'S WEIGHT WHIRLED US OVER.
I CAN'T KICK HIM LOOSE! - AND I CAN'T DROP HIM! HIS FINGERS ARE LIKE STEEL!
MY FLYING BELT COULDN'T BEAR THE WEIGHT OF THREE - DOWN WE DRIFTED.
WE WERE IN THEIR GRASP.
BUT WHAT PLANET?
ONE SLIPPED THE ROCKET-CARTRIDGE FROM MY FLYING-BELT —— ANOTHER BARKED AN ORDER.
HEY!- LET GO- OR I'LL—
NO USE RESISTING, BUDDY- THEY'VE GOT US!
UG!- GOG- OOOLA!
TWO OF THEM CAME RUNNING- WITH BIG GLASS TUBES.
OH BUDDY— THEY'RE G-G-GOING TO——
N-N-NOW WHAT?
THEY STUFFED US INTO THE TUBES!
WHAT THA-
THEY'RE PUTTING US IN BIG TEST TUBES!
THEY CARRIED US TO ONE OF THEIR PROJECTILE — LIKE BUILDINGS——
IF I ONLY KNEW!
LOOK! THE METAL IN THOSE BUILDINGS! IT'S ULLMIUM! IT'S PLENTIFUL ON THE PLANET MERCURY - OUR CAPTORS ARE MERCURIANS!
IT'S ONLY A DEAD CRATER - WHY BOTHER LOOKING THERE FOR THEM?
WE FACED A TERRIBLE FATE!
THEY'RE GOING TO PRESERVE US OR - OR SOMETHING!
AND CARRY US OFF TO MERCURY AS SPECIMENS!
NO - THEY'D HARDLY LAND IN A CRATER - BUT STILL——
MEANWHILE OUR ROYAL GUARDS, FLASHING ALONG THE WAKE OF THE STORM, SEARCHING FOR US, SIGHTED THE VOLCANO THAT CONCEALED THE MERCURIANS.
DICK CALKINS
(TO BE CONTINUED)
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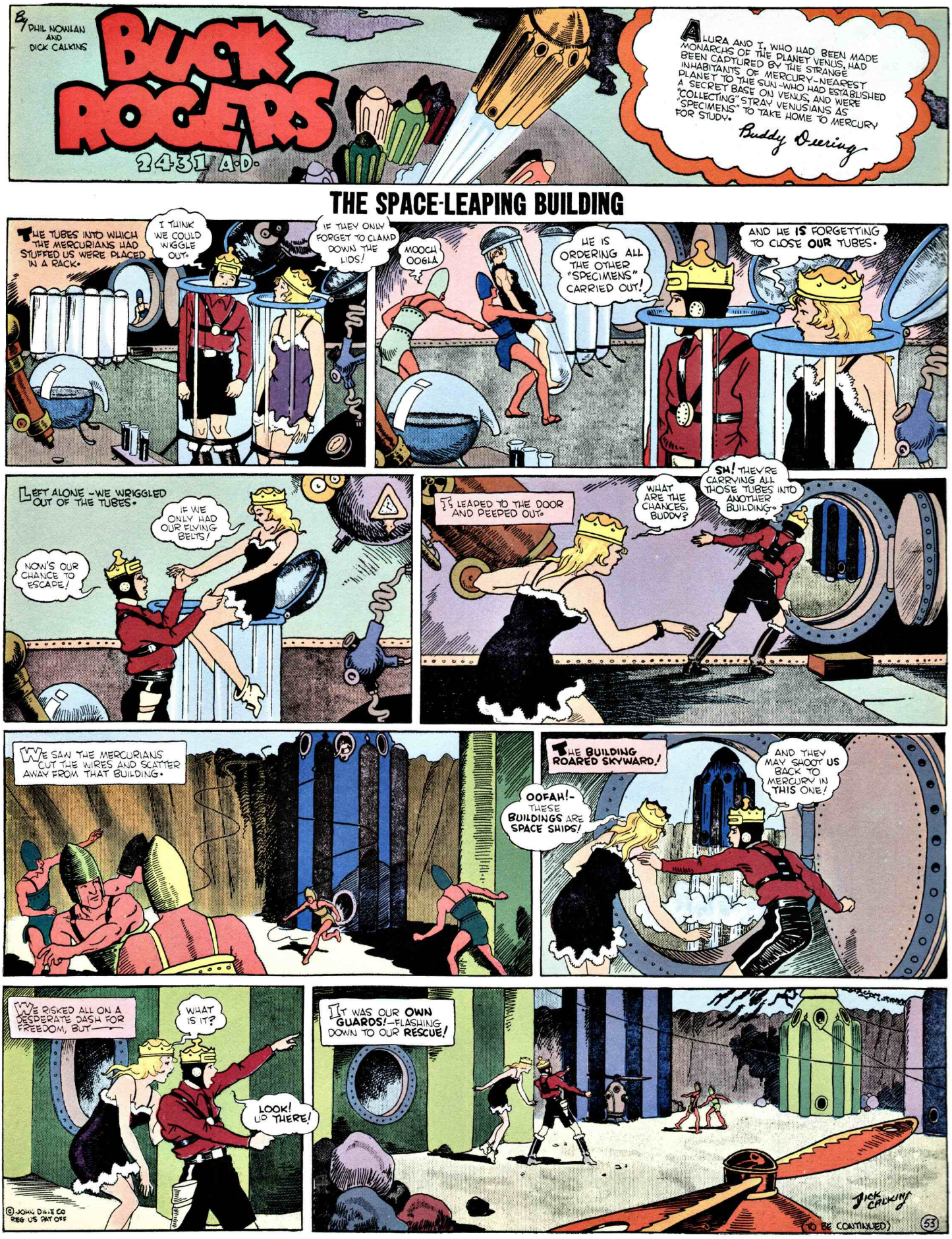
By PHIL NOWLAN AND DICK CALKINS
BUCK ROGERS
2431 A.D.
ALURA AND I, WHO HAD BEEN MADE MONARCHS OF THE PLANET VENUS, HAD BEEN CAPTURED BY THE STRANGE INHABITANTS OF MERCURY-NEAREST PLANET TO THE SUN-WHO HAD ESTABLISHED A SECRET BASE ON VENUS, AND WERE "COLLECTING" STRAY VENUSIANS AS "SPECIMENS" TO TAKE HOME TO MERCURY FOR STUDY.
Buddy Overing
THE SPACE-LEAPING BUILDING
THE TUBES INTO WHICH THE MERCURIANS HAD STUFFED US WERE PLACED IN A RACK.
I THINK WE COULD WIGGLE OUT.
IF THEY ONLY FORGET TO CLAMP DOWN THE LIDS!
MOOCH OOGLA
HE IS ORDERING ALL THE OTHER "SPECIMENS" CARRIED OUT!
AND HE IS FORGETTING TO CLOSE OUR TUBES.
LEFT ALONE - WE WRIGGLED OUT OF THE TUBES.
IF WE ONLY HAD OUR FLYING BELTS!
NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO ESCAPE!
I LEAPED TO THE DOOR AND PEEPED OUT.
WHAT ARE THE CHANCES, BUDDY?
SH! THEY'RE CARRYING ALL THOSE TUBES INTO ANOTHER BUILDING.
WE SAW THE MERCURIANS CUT THE WIRES AND SCATTER AWAY FROM THAT BUILDING.
THE BUILDING ROARED SKYWARD!
OOFAH! - THESE BUILDINGS ARE SPACE SHIPS!
AND THEY MAY SHOOT US BACK TO MERCURY IN THIS ONE!
WE RISKED ALL ON A DESPERATE DASH FOR FREEDOM, BUT—
WHAT IS IT?
LOOK! UP THERE!
IT WAS OUR OWN GUARDS!—FLASHING DOWN TO OUR RESCUE!
DICK CALKINS
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(TO BE CONTINUED)
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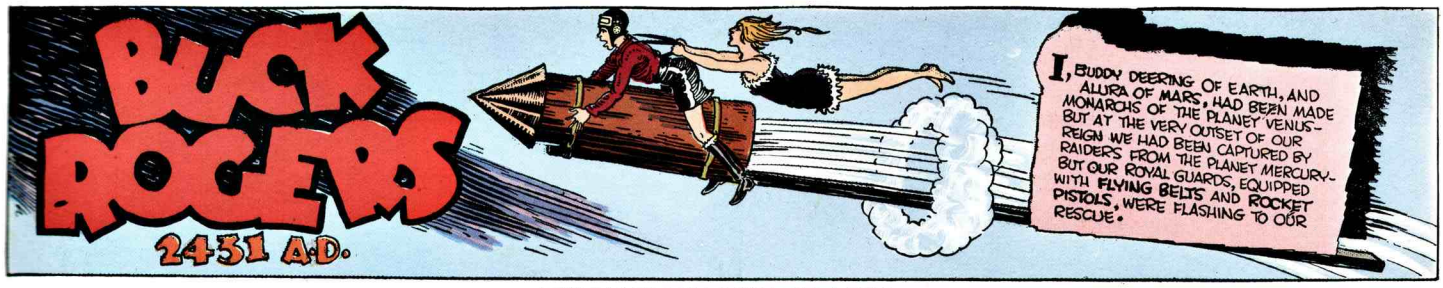
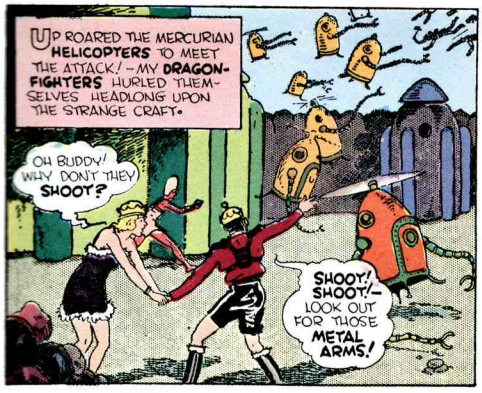
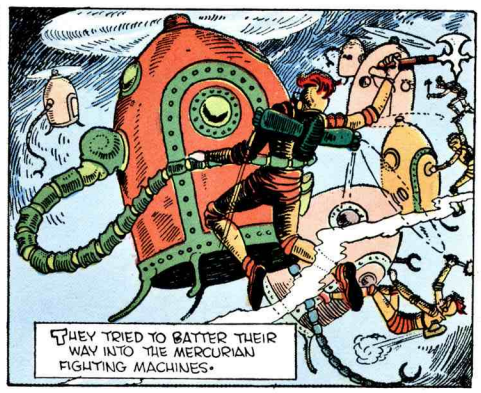
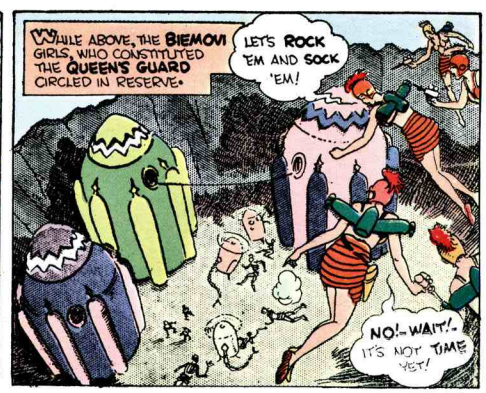

BUCK ROGERS
2431 A.D.
I, BUDDY DEERING OF EARTH, AND ALURA OF MARS, HAD BEEN MADE MONARCHS OF THE PLANET VENUS— BUT AT THE VERY OUTSET OF OUR REIGN WE HAD BEEN CAPTURED BY RAIDERS FROM THE PLANET MERCURY— BUT OUR ROYAL GUARDS, EQUIPPED WITH FLYING BELTS AND ROCKET PISTOLS, WERE FLASHING TO OUR RESCUE.

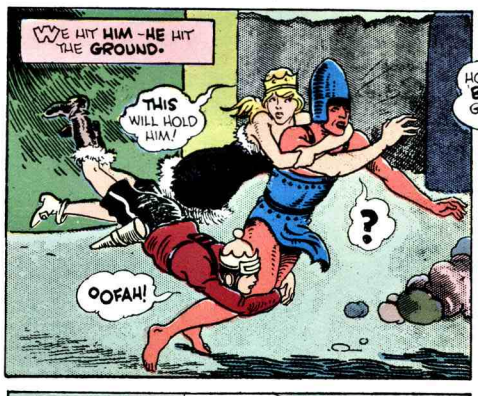
THE BATTLE IN THE AIR

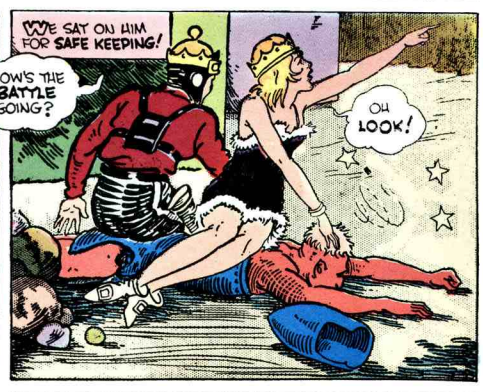

UP ROARED THE MERCURIAN HELICOPTERS TO MEET THE ATTACK!—MY DRAGON-FIGHTERS HURLED THEMSELVES HEADLONG UPON THE STRANGE CRAFT.
OH BUDDY! WHY DON'T THEY SHOOT?
SHOOT!/ SHOOT!— LOOK OUT FOR THOSE METAL ARMS!

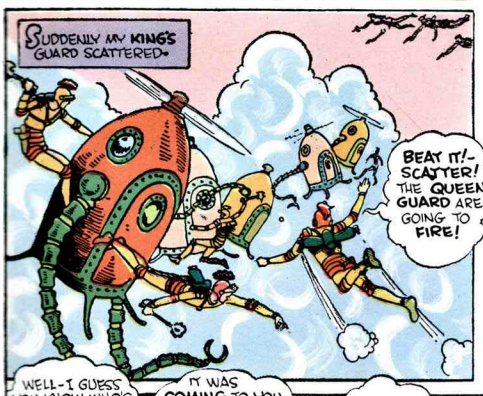


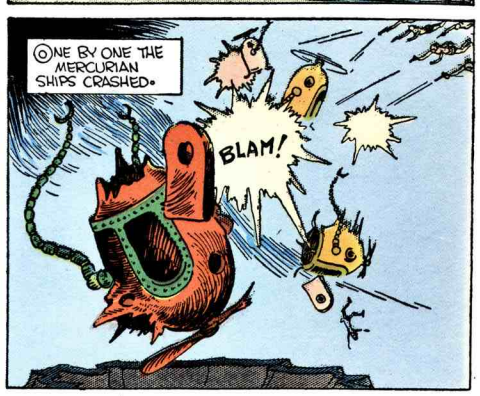

WHILE ABOVE, THE BIEMOVI GIRLS, WHO CONSTITUTED THE QUEEN'S GUARD CIRCLED IN RESERVE.
LET'S ROCK 'EM AND SOCK 'EM!
NO!—WAIT!— IT'S NOT TIME YET!

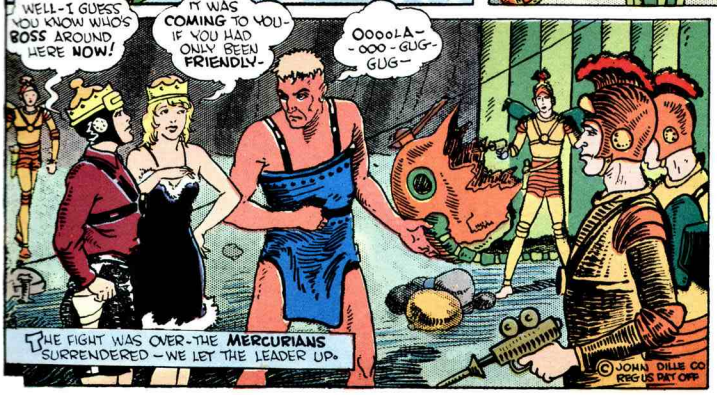
THE MERCURIAN COMMANDER'S ATTENTION WAS ON THE TERRIFIC BATTLE OVERHEAD SO—
NOW'S OUR CHANCE!— LET'S NAIL HIM!
I'LL DIVE AT HIS LEGS— YOU JUMP AT HIS NECK!










WELL—I GUESS YOU KNOW WHO'S BOSS AROUND HERE NOW!
IT WAS COMING TO YOU— IF YOU HAD ONLY BEEN FRIENDLY—
OOOOLA— -OOO-GUG- GUG—
THE FIGHT WAS OVER—THE MERCURIANS SURRENDERED—WE LET THE LEADER UP.
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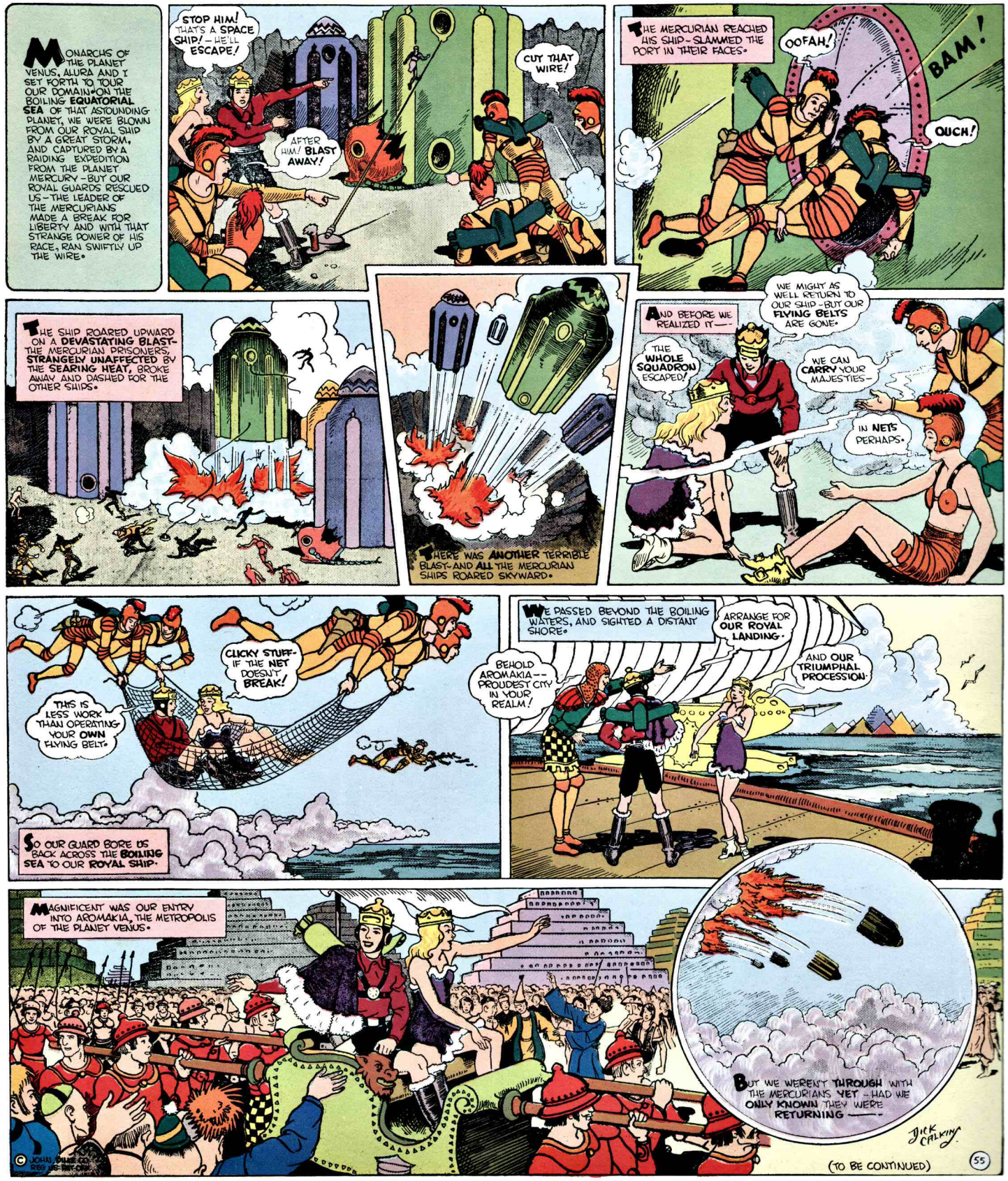
BUCK ROGERS 2431 AD

THE MERCURIAN THREAT


MONARCHS OF THE PLANET VENUS, ALURA AND I SET FORTH TO TOUR OUR DOMAIN—ON THE BOILING EQUATORIAL SEA OF THAT ASTOUNDING PLANET, WE WERE BLOWN FROM OUR ROYAL SHIP BY A GREAT STORM, AND CAPTURED BY A RAIDING EXPEDITION FROM THE PLANET MERCURY—BUT OUR ROYAL GUARDS RESCUED US—THE LEADER OF THE MERCURIANS MADE A BREAK FOR LIBERTY AND WITH THAT STRANGE POWER OF HIS RACE, RAN SWIFTLY UP THE WIRE.
STOP HIM! THAT'S A SPACE SHIP!—HE'LL ESCAPE!
CUT THAT WIRE!
AFTER HIM! BLAST AWAY!
THE MERCURIAN REACHED HIS SHIP—SLAMMED THE PORT IN THEIR FACES.
OOFAH!
BAM!
OUCH!
THE SHIP ROARED UPWARD ON A DEVASTATING BLAST—THE MERCURIAN PRISONERS, STRANGELY UNAFFECTED BY THE SEARING HEAT, BROKE AWAY AND DASHED FOR THE OTHER SHIPS.
THERE WAS ANOTHER TERRIBLE BLAST—AND ALL THE MERCURIAN SHIPS ROARED SKYWARD.
AND BEFORE WE REALIZED IT—
THE WHOLE SQUADRON ESCAPED!
WE MIGHT AS WELL RETURN TO OUR SHIP—BUT OUR FLYING BELTS ARE GONE.
WE CAN CARRY YOUR MAJESTIES—
IN NETS PERHAPS.
CLICKY STUFF—IF THE NET DOESN'T BREAK!
THIS IS LESS WORK THAN OPERATING YOUR OWN FLYING BELT.
SO OUR GUARD BORE US BACK ACROSS THE BOILING SEA TO OUR ROYAL SHIP.
WE PASSED BEYOND THE BOILING WATERS, AND SIGHTED A DISTANT SHORE.
ARRANGE FOR OUR ROYAL LANDING.
AND OUR TRIUMPHAL PROCESSION.
BEHOLD AROMAKIA—PROUDEST CITY IN YOUR REALM!
MAGNIFICENT WAS OUR ENTRY INTO AROMAKIA, THE METROPOLIS OF THE PLANET VENUS.
BUT WE WEREN'T THROUGH WITH THE MERCURIANS YET—HAD WE ONLY KNOWN THEY WERE RETURNING——
DICK CALKINS
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(TO BE CONTINUED)
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BUCK ROGERS 2431 AD

THE DOOM OF AROMAKIA

ALURA OF MARS, AND I, BUDDY DEERING OF EARTH, HAD BEEN MADE MONARCHS OF THE PLANET VENUS - WE HAD BEEN CAPTURED BY AN INTERPLANETARY RAIDING EXPEDITION OF MERCURIANS - BUT OUR **ROYAL GUARD** DEFEATED THE MERCURIANS AND RESCUED US - SO WE RESUMED OUR JOURNEY TO AROMAKIA, GREATEST OF ALL THE VENUSIAN CITIES - THE AROMAKS RECEIVED US WITH ENTHUSIASM AND ENTERTAINED US MAGNIFICENTLY.
Buddy Deering

ALURA ENJOYED THE ROYAL SWIMMING POOL, ON TOP OF THE GREAT PYRAMIDAL PALACE.

THIS IS THE **LIFE!** - I WISH BUDDY HADN'T GONE OFF ON HIS **OFFAH** OLD INSPECTION TOUR, THOUGH.

IT IS WELL THAT **QUEENS** SHOULD **BASK** AND **DISPORT** THEMSELVES, YOUR MAJESTY - BUT WITH **KINGS**, IT IS **DIFFERENT** - THERE ARE **RESPONSIBILITIES**, AND -

WHAT ARE THOSE FUNNY LITTLE CARS - OR ELEVATORS - RUNNING UP AND DOWN THE SIDES OF THE BUILDINGS?

TEEO, THE RULER OF AROMAKIA WAS SHOWING ME THE CITY.

THE CARS WERE BALANCED - ONE AGAINST THE OTHER - ON CABLES.

AS A CAR REACHES THE TOP IT IS FILLED WITH WATER -

TO MAKE IT **HEAVIER** THAN THE OTHER ONE BALANCING IT AT THE BOTTOM?

AND AT THE **BOTTOM**

AN AUTOMATIC LEVER OPENS THE CAR'S TANK, AND LETS OUT THE WATER!

PRIMITIVE - YET CLEVER - BUT HOW DO YOU **PUMP** THE WATER TO THE **TOPS** OF THE BUILDINGS?

EACH TREAD-MILL WORKS A **PUMP** - AND THE **PUMPS** KEEP THE CITY TANKS FILLED.

OH YEAH? - DIDN'T YOU **EVER** HEAR OF **ENGINES**? WE'LL HAVE TO **MAKE** SOME FOR YOU, AS OUR **ROYAL PRESENT!**

AT THE GREAT AROMAKIAN WATER WORKS.

WE STAGED A **FLYING BELT** EXHIBITION FOR THE AROMAK POPULATION - THE **PEOPLE WERE AMAZED!**

WHAT KEEPS THEM FROM FALLING?

THEY SAY THEY HAVE A MATERIAL THAT **"FALLS" UPWARD!**

BUT THOSE BLASTS OF **FIRE?**

THOSE ARE **ROCKET BLASTS!** - THAT'S HOW THEY PUSH THEMSELVES **AROUND!**

BUT IN THE PALACE - AFTERWARD -

YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO **IMPRISON** US?

HAVE A **CARE, TEEO!** - THAT IS **TREASON!**

WHAT DO I CARE FOR THE PEOPLE'S WILL? - YOUR **ROYAL** GUARD IS SCATTERED THROUGH THE **CITY** - BUT **MY** GUARD IS **HERE!!**

I SHOUTED FOR OUR GUARD - BUT IT WAS **TEEO'S THUGS WHO CAME!**

YOU **OOFAHS!**

YOU'LL SUFFER FOR THIS, TEEO!

TUT-TUT! - I THINK NOT - **AWAY** WITH THEM TO THE **DEEP SECRET DUNGEON!**

NICE LOOKING MONARCHS **WE** ARE WON'T OUR **GUARDS HUNT** FOR US?

TEEO WILL TELL SOME **FALSE STORY** ABOUT OUR **DISAPPEARANCE**, I'M AFRAID.

THERE WASN'T A **CHANCE** TO BREAK OUT - THE DUNGEON WAS **FAR** BELOW GROUND.

IT WAS AT **THIS MOMENT** - THOUGH WE DID NOT KNOW IT - THAT THE **MERCURIAN SPACE** FLEET FLASHED DOWN ON **AROMAKIA!**

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— AND DROPPED THEIR **BOMBS OF DOOM.**

NONE KNEW WHAT THOSE BOMBS CONTAINED!

(TO BE CONTINUED) Dick Calkins

BUCK ROGERS 2431 A.D.

AURA AND I—MONARCHS OF THE PLANET VENUS—AFTER ASTOUNDING ADVENTURES, INCLUDING CAPTURE BY **INTERPLANETARY RAIDERS FROM MERCURY**, WERE NOW IMPRISONED FAR BELOW GROUND IN THE CITY OF AROMAKIA—FOR TEEO, RULER OF THE CITY, JEALOUS OF OUR POWER, HAD TREACHEROUSLY SEIZED US.

THE FROZEN CITY

IT'S BEEN **HOURS** AND **HOURS** SINCE THEY THREW US IN HERE.

IT'S AN **OUTRAGE**—THEY MIGHT **AT LEAST** GIVE US **FOOD!**

WE KNEW NOTHING OF THE ATTACK ON THE CITY BY THE **MERCURIAN** SHIPS.

SUDDENLY THE DOOR BANGED OPEN—IT WAS A **MERCURIAN** WHO STOOD LOOKING AT US—WE WERE TOO SURPRISED TO **MOVE** OR **SPEAK.**

WE WERE EVEN **MORE** ASTONISHED WHEN HE TURNED AND LEFT WITHOUT A **WORD!**

A **MERCURIAN!**—HAS THE CITY BEEN **CAPTURED?**

AND HE PAID NO MORE ATTENTION TO US THAN IF WE WERE A COUPLE OF **STATUES!**—I WONDER **WHY?**

BUT THE WAY TO **FREEDOM** WAS OPEN.

WE BETTER BEAT IT WHILE WE **CAN!**

IF WE COULD JUST FIND OUR **ROYAL GUARD!**

IN THE PALACE ABOVE WE MADE AN **AMAZING** DISCOVERY.

WH-WHY—SHE'S **ALIVE!**

BUT **RIGID AS STONE!**—TH-THIS IS **WEIRD!**

IN ANOTHER ROOM—

IT'S **TEEO!**—HE **TOO!**—I—I WONDER—

—M-IT'S THE **MERCURIANS** WHO HAVE DONE THIS! THEY **MUST** HAVE CAPTURED THE CITY!

IN THE **PUBLIC SQUARE**—

SH!—CAREFUL!—A **MERCURIAN** SHIP!

ALL RESISTANCE HAS CEASED—THEY'RE CARRYING THINGS ABOARD!—**WHAT,** I WONDER?

WE WORKED OUR WAY CLOSER.

THEY'RE CARRYING **PEOPLE** ABOARD!

PARALYZED—AND FROZEN STIFF—IN ALL SORTS OF ODD POSITIONS!

EVEN AS WE WATCHED, THE PORTS OF THE MERCURIAN SHIP CLOSED AND THE CRAFT **ROARED SKYWARD!**

COVER YOUR **FACE!**—THAT **ROCKET BLAST!**

I HOPE THEY DON'T COME **BACK!**

EVERYWHERE WE WENT IN THE STRICKEN CITY—

THEY'RE **ALL** THE SAME—**PARALYZED RIGID** FROZEN **STIFF**—YET **ALIVE!**

AND—AND TH-THERE'S NO **REMEDY** WE CAN APPLY!—IF WE ONLY **UNDERSTOOD** THE MERCURIANS' **SCIENCE**—THIS IS **SOME** FORM OF **SUSPENDED ANIMATION!**

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IN **ALL** AROMAKIA **ONLY AURA AND I** REMAINED **FREE** AND IN **POSSESSION OF OUR FACULTIES.**

ALONE—IN THE MIDST OF **LIVING STATUES** IN A **FROZEN CITY!**

AND WE HAVEN'T ENOUGH **FUEL** IN OUR **FLYING BELTS** TO FLY BACK ACROSS THE **BOILING SEA**—**WHAT** SHALL WE **DO!**

JACK CALKINS

(TO BE CONTINUED)

BUCK ROGERS 2431 AD

Written by PHIL NOWLAN

THE CITY OF LIVING STATUES

Drawn by DICK CALKINS

AROMAKIA - FAIREST CITY OF THE PLANET VENUS - HAD BECOME A SILENT, MOTIONLESS CITY OF LIVING STATUES - ITS INHABITANTS PARALYZED - HELPLESS RIGID AS STONE IN WHATEVER POSITIONS THE DREAD, MYSTERIOUS POWER OF THE MERCURIAN INVADERS HAD CAUGHT THEM - A POWER WHICH DID NOT KILL, BUT SUSPENDED ANIMATION - ONLY ALURA AND I - SUPREME MONARCHS OF VENUS - SEEMED TO HAVE ESCAPED THE EFFECTS OF THE DREAD MERCURIAN POWER.
FOR DAYS WE WANDERED THROUGH THE CITY, SEEING NO MOVING THING, UNTIL -
LOOK, BUDDY - A MOVING FIGURE!
A MERCURIAN! - MAYBE HE KNOWS HOW TO REVIVE THESE "FROZEN" PEOPLE! WE'LL HAVE TO CAPTURE HIM!
SILENTLY - DRIFTING ON OUR FLYING BELTS - WE FLOATED ABOVE HIM - AND THEN -
PIN HIM DOWN, BUDDY!
I GOT HIM!
TO OUR AMAZEMENT HE SPOKE IN THE VENUSIAN TONGUE -
I SURRENDER! I AM AN OUTCAST - MY OWN PEOPLE HAVE LEFT ME HERE TO PERISH ON A STRANGE PLANET! I - I AM HUNGRY!
WELL, YOU'VE GOT TO REVIVE THESE LIVING STATUES -
- OR YOU DON'T EAT!
HE ASKED IF THERE WAS A CHEMICAL LABORATORY IN AROMAKIA - WE TOOK HIM TO ONE, AND -
HEY! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? - ARE YOU CRAZY?
AH! - COPPER SULPHATE - EATS! EATS!
COPPER SULPHATE
HUNGRILY THE MERCURIAN ATE THE COPPER SULPHATE!
OH STOP HIM, BUDDY! HE'LL POISON HIMSELF!
HE SEEMS TO KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING!
OH - YOU EAT METALLIC SALTS AS FOOD.
YES - OUR BONES AND FLESH ARE COMPOSED OF METALLIC PROTOPLASM HERE! - SEE?
WAH - WHY - YOU SOUND LIKE A BELL!
DING!
COPPER SULPHATE
THE MERCURIAN EXPLAINED.
WE PUT OUR PRISONER TO WORK IN THE LABORATORY.
I'LL FIND IT! I'LL FIND IT! - GIVE ME JUST A FEW DAYS MORE!
AND REMEMBER! - IF YOU DON'T FIND THE FORMULA TO REVIVE THESE LIVING STATUES -
IT WILL BE JUST TOO BAD!
AT LENGTH WE FOUND THE REMEDY - WE WERE BUSY REVIVING THE PETRIFIED VENUSIANS WHEN -
LOOK - LOOK! - A SPACE SHIP - B - BUT NOT FROM MERCURY!
IT'S OUR OWN ROCKET SHIP!
HOORAY!
OUR CRAFT LANDED IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE.
BUT - BUT VENUSIANS AREN'T ADVANCED ENOUGH SCIENTIFICALLY TO BUILD SPACE SHIPS!
NO - BUT I'M FROM EARTH - AND THE QUEEN HERE IS A MARTIAN - IT'S OUR SPACE SHIP.
NOW WE CAN RE-CROSS THE BOILING SEA!
AT YOUR MAJESTIES' SERVICE!
BUT AT THIS VERY INSTANT -
THE ELECTRONOGRAPHS AND TELEVISION SHOW A STRANGE SPACE FLEET FLASHING TOWARD VENUS IN BATTLE FORMATION!!
IT'S THE MERCURIANS - THEY'LL DESTROY EVERYTHING!
WE MUST ESCAPE! - HURRY!
BUT THE AROMAKS WILL PERISH!
THEY SHALL NOT PERISH! - WE WILL DEFEND OUR LOYAL SUBJECTS - WE FIGHT!
WE FACED A CRISIS.
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UP WE FLASHED, THROUGH THE VENUSIAN CLOUDS!
AND IN THE VOID OF SPACE WE FACED THE ENEMY!
THE GREATEST BATTLE IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE WAS ABOUT TO BEGIN!
JACK CALKINS
(TO BE CONTINUED)
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BUCK ROGERS 2431 AD

By – PHIL NOWLAN AND DICK CALKINS

THE BATTLE IN SPACE

EVER SINCE ALURA OF MARS AND I, BUDDY DEERING OF EARTH, HAD LANDED OUR SPACE SHIP ON THE PLANET VENUS, WE HAD HAD ONE ASTOUNDING ADVENTURE AFTER ANOTHER- WE HAD BEEN MADE SUPREME MONARCHS OF THE PLANET- WE HAD BATTLED WITH INVADERS FROM THE MYSTERIOUS SUNWARD PLANET, MERCURY- TEMPORARILY WE HAD BEATEN THEM, AND DRIVEN THEM OFF, BUT NOW THEY WERE RETURNING TO THE ATTACK IN THEIR POWERFUL INTERPLANETARY SHIPS— SWIFTLY OUR OWN ROCKET SHIP FLASHED OUT INTO THE VOID OF SPACE TO MEET THEM.

THE MERCURIAN FLEET SPED TOWARD US IN CONE FORMATION.

IN OUR CONTROL ROOM.

FLASH THE RAY ON THEIR LEADING SHIP!– DRIVE STRAIGHT, THROUGH THEM!

AYE, AYE, SIR!

IF WE GO BETWEEN THEM THEY CAN'T FLASH BACK AT US – FOR FEAR OF HITTING THEIR OWN SHIPS!

NO! – NO! THEY'D HAVE US IN A TRAP! — LOOP! — BACK! INTO THE CLOUDS OF VENUS!

OUR RAY FLASHED — THE MERCURIAN SHIP WENT "OUT" IN AN IRRIDESCENT ELECTRONIC EXPLOSION. BUT THE OTHERS LOOPED OUT OF RANGE.

PUFFF!

AS THE ENEMY WITHDREW IN A GREAT CIRCLE FORMATION —

NOW WE'VE GOT 'EM ON THE RUN! – FLASH AFTER THEM!

WE LOOPED BACK – AROUND THE NIGHT-SHADOW SIDE OF THE PLANET.

SHOOTING CLEAR AROUND THE PLANET, WE FLASHED FAR OUT TO ONE SIDE – AND HEADED SUNWARD.

WE MANEUVERED TO FACE THE MERCURIANS WITH THE SUN AT OUR BACK.

THEY'VE LOST TRACK OF US!

NOW WE'LL SURPRISE THEM!

SEE! – THERE THEY ARE! – FULLY 40,000 MILES AWAY!

WE DRIFTED DOWN ON THEM – INVISIBLE WITH THE BLINDING, BLAZING SUN BEHIND US.

OK, BUDDY!

WE'RE ALMOST ON TOP OF THEM- STILL THEY DON'T SEE US!

QUICK! ALL BOY, ORDER THE GUN CREWS TO THEIR POSTS! MAN THE DISINTEGRATOR RAYS!

DEMORALIZED, THE MERCURIAN SHIPS PLUNGED STRAIGHT FOR THE VENUSIAN ATMOSPHERE.

THE MERCURIAN FLEET WAS PANIC-STRICKEN AS ANNIHILATION SEEMED TO LEAD IN THEM FROM THE SUN ITSELF.

PUFFF!

LOOK! – THEY'RE PLUNGING STRAIGHT TOWARD VENUS!

DOES THAT MEAN SURRENDER?

OR ARE THEY TRYING TO ESCAPE?

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WE PLUNGED AFTER THEM –

LITTLE DID WE REALIZE THE SURPRISE THAT AWAITED US!

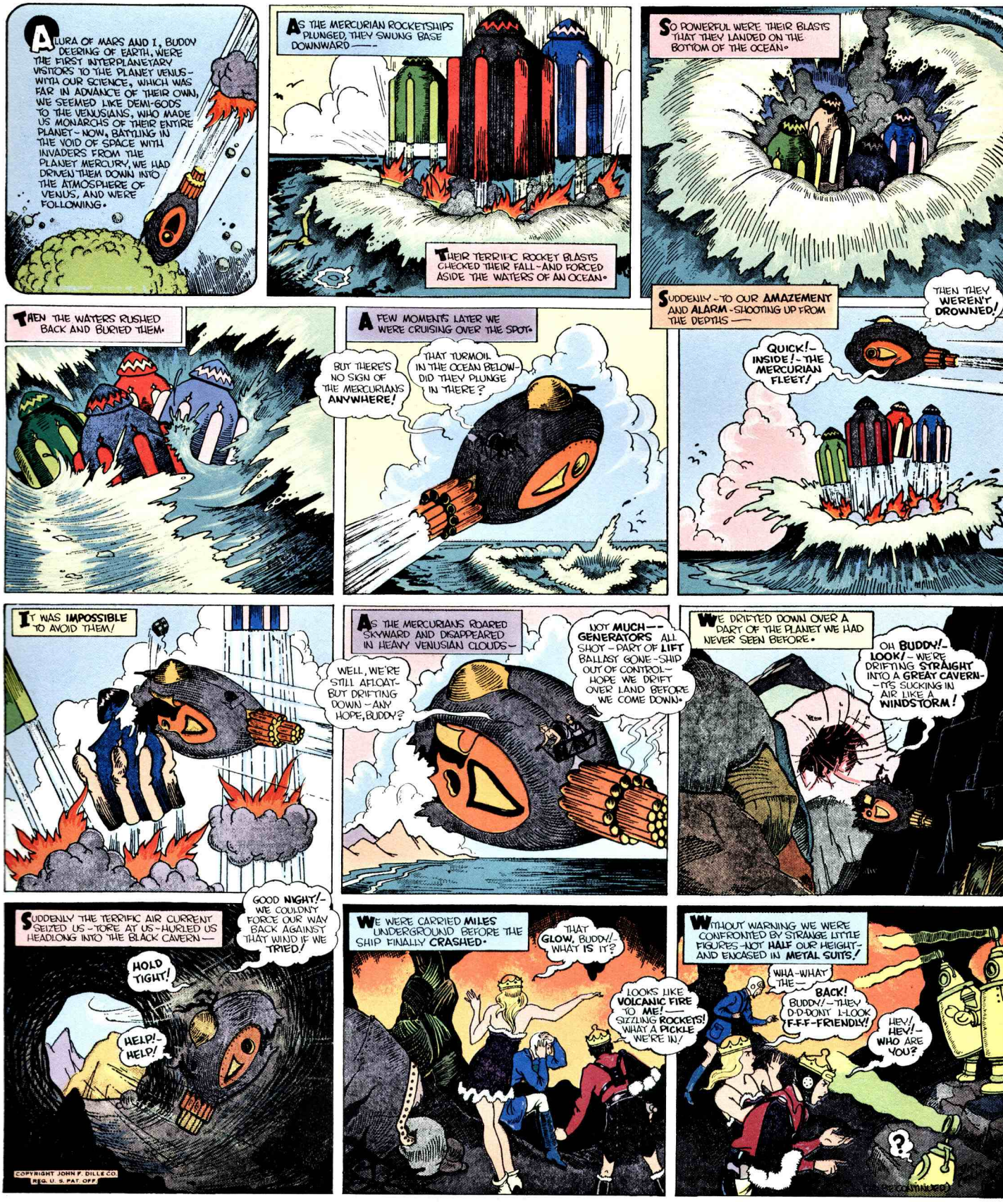
(TO BE CONTINUED)

BUCK ROGERS 2431 AD

Written by - PHIL NOWLAN

THE CAVES OF FIRE

Drawn by - DICK CALKINS


ALURA OF MARS AND I, BUDDY DEERING OF EARTH, WERE THE FIRST INTERPLANETARY VISITORS TO THE PLANET VENUS - WITH OUR SCIENCE, WHICH WAS FAR IN ADVANCE OF THEIR OWN, WE SEEMED LIKE DEMI-GODS TO THE VENUSIANS, WHO MADE US MONARCHS OF THEIR ENTIRE PLANET - NOW, BATTLING IN THE VOID OF SPACE WITH INVADERS FROM THE PLANET MERCURY, WE HAD DRIVEN THEM DOWN INTO THE ATMOSPHERE OF VENUS, AND WERE FOLLOWING.
AS THE MERCURIAN ROCKETSHIPS PLUNGED, THEY SWUNG BASE DOWNWARD —
THEIR TERRIFIC ROCKET BLASTS CHECKED THEIR FALL - AND FORCED ASIDE THE WATERS OF AN OCEAN.
SO POWERFUL WERE THEIR BLASTS THAT THEY LANDED ON THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN.
THEN THE WATERS RUSHED BACK AND BURIED THEM.
A FEW MOMENTS LATER WE WERE CRUISING OVER THE SPOT.
BUT THERE'S NO SIGN OF THE MERCURIANS ANYWHERE!
THAT TURMOIL IN THE OCEAN BELOW - DID THEY PLUNGE IN THERE?
SUDDENLY - TO OUR AMAZEMENT AND ALARM - SHOOTING UP FROM THE DEPTHS —
THEN THEY WEREN'T DROWNED!
QUICK! - INSIDE! - THE MERCURIAN FLEET!
IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO AVOID THEM!
AS THE MERCURIANS ROARED SKYWARD AND DISAPPEARED IN HEAVY VENUSIAN CLOUDS -
WELL, WE'RE STILL AFLOAT - BUT DRIFTING DOWN - ANY HOPE, BUDDY?
NOT MUCH — GENERATORS ALL SHOT - PART OF LIFT BALLAST GONE - SHIP OUT OF CONTROL - HOPE WE DRIFT OVER LAND BEFORE WE COME DOWN.
WE DRIFTED DOWN OVER A PART OF THE PLANET WE HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE.
OH BUDDY! - LOOK! - WE'RE DRIFTING STRAIGHT INTO A GREAT CAVERN - IT'S SUCKING IN AIR LIKE A WINDSTORM!
SUDDENLY THE TERRIFIC AIR CURRENT SEIZED US - TORE AT US - HURLED US HEADLONG INTO THE BLACK CAVERN —
GOOD NIGHT! - WE COULDN'T FORCE OUR WAY BACK AGAINST THAT WIND IF WE TRIED!
HOLD TIGHT!
HELP! - HELP!
WE WERE CARRIED MILES UNDERGROUND BEFORE THE SHIP FINALLY CRASHED.
THAT GLOW, BUDDY! - WHAT IS IT?
LOOKS LIKE VOLCANIC FIRE TO ME! — SIZZLING ROCKETS! WHAT A PICKLE WE'RE IN!
WITHOUT WARNING WE WERE CONFRONTED BY STRANGE LITTLE FIGURES - NOT HALF OUR HEIGHT - AND ENCASED IN METAL SUITS!
WHA - WHAT THE —
BACK! BUDDY! - THEY D-D-DON'T L-LOOK F-F-F-FRIENDLY!
HEY! HEY! - WHO ARE YOU?
?
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BUCK ROGERS 2431 AD

OUT OF THE GROUND

WE HAD DRIVEN THE INVADING MERCURIANS FOREVER FROM THE PLANET VENUS, OF WHICH ALURA OF MARS, AND I, BUDDY DEERING OF EARTH HAD BEEN MADE REIGNING MONARCHS—BUT OUR ROCKET-SHIP WAS A WRECK, AND SEIZED IN THE GRASP OF A TERRIBLE WIND, IT HAD BEEN HURLED FAR UNDERGROUND THROUGH A SERIES OF CAVES—NOW WE FACED THE STRANGE DENIZENS OF THIS SUBTERRANEAN WORLD ———

OUR CAPTORS WERE SKILLFUL METAL-WORKERS—THEY HAD US IN CHAINS IN NO TIME.

WHAT DO YOU TAKE US FOR?—CRIMINALS?

HEY—YOU LITTLE HALF-PINTS—DON'T YOU KNOW YOU'RE TYING UP THE KING AND QUEEN OF THIS PLANET!

IT'S NO USE, BENSON, THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND A WORD YOU'RE SAYING!

SOME OF THE STRANGE LITTLE CREATURES TRIED TO FORCE THEIR WAY UP THE TUNNEL THROUGH WHICH WE HAD COME.

THE WIND IS TOO MUCH FOR THEM—IT BLOWS THEM RIGHT BACK.

THEY SEEM WEAK, AS WELL AS SMALL!

WELL, WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE!

WHEN THEY TOOK OFF THEIR METAL SUITS, WHICH WERE INSULATED TO PROTECT THEM AGAINST VOLCANIC FIRE, THE LITTLE FOLK WERE NOT BAD LOOKING—A GIRL NAMED ULIA WAS APPOINTED TO STUDY OUR LANGUAGE.

I SHALL TELL YOU THE STORY OF MY PEOPLE—ONCE UPON A TIME——

THE STORY

UNTOLD CENTURIES BEFORE, A PARTY OF VENUSIANS HAD BEEN TRAPPED IN A GREAT CAVE NEAR THE NORTH POLE.

THROUGH THE AGES THAT FOLLOWED—DEPRIVED OF SUNLIGHT AND OUTSIDE AIR—THEY BECAME SMALL OF STATURE—AND WEAK—BUT ALWAYS THEY TRIED TO FIGHT THEIR WAY BACK TO THE SURFACE.

RRRR!

ULTIMATELY THEY DEVELOPED GREAT SKILL AS METAL WORKERS—AND WERE CUTTING THEIR WAY UPWARD MORE RAPIDLY THROUGH THE UNBELIEVABLY HARD ROCK, USING VOLCANIC HEAT FOR POWER.

BUT WHY CHAIN US UP?—WE DON'T WANT TO STOP YOU FROM COMING OUT!

WE'RE TAKING NO CHANCES! THE OUTSIDE WORLD MAY BE CROWDED AND WE'LL HAVE TO FIGHT!

NIX NIX! IT'S NOT CROWDED AT ALL! LET US BE YOUR KING AND QUEEN TOO—AND I'LL GET YOU OUT OF HERE IN A JIFFY!

ULIA WAS LITTLE BUT SCRAPPY!

THE LITTLE FOLK RELEASED US FROM OUR CHAINS—I SHOWED THEM HOW TO BUILD A POWERFUL TRACTOR.

WHY TO HOLD IT DOWN, OF COURSE.

SEE!—IT HAS REVERSED PLANES ON TOP!

WHAT FOR?

THE HARDER THE AIR BLEW DOWN THE TUNNEL THE MORE TIGHTLY THE TRACTOR GRIPPED THE GROUND.

THE TRACTOR, FORCING ITS WAY UP AGAINST THE TERRIBLE RUSH OF WIND, FINALLY EMERGED ABOVE GROUND.

I RIGGED THE TRACTOR AS A WINCH. WE PULLED THE LITTLE FOLK UP FROM BELOW BY SWARMS.

AND THEY REFUSE TO GO BACK AGAIN, EVEN FOR THEIR TOOLS!

OH LOOK HOW GLAD THEY ARE TO GET ABOVE GROUND!

THEY SEEM TO HAVE AN ENDLESS SUPPLY OF CHAIN.

SO ALURA AND I GAINED THOUSANDS OF NEW SUBJECTS, AND LED A GREAT MIGRATION OF THE LITTLE FOLK SOUTHWARD.

HEY! HEY!—THE MORE YOU GET THE MORE YOU WANT!

WE HAVE MADE YOU OUR RULERS—YOU HAVE FULFILLED OUR DREAM OF AGES—NOW LEAD US TO MORE FERTILE, PLEASANT LANDS!

BUT SUDDENLY—OVER THE HILLS——

FLYING DRAGONS!

WITHOUT RIDERS!

WILD—AND FEROCIOUS! DEFEND YOURSELVES!

DICK CALKINS

(TO BE CONTINUED)

BUCK ROGERS 2431 AD

Written by - PHIL NOWLAN

FIGHTING WILD DRAGONS

Drawn by - DICK CALKINS

A STRANGE RACE OF LITTLE PEOPLE HAD LIVED FOR UNTOLD CENTURIES IN THE SUBTERRANEAN CAVES OF THE PLANET VENUS - ALURA AND I HAD LED THEM FORTH FINALLY INTO THE LIGHT OF DAY - BUT SCARCELY HAD WE STARTED TO LEAD THEM ON THEIR GREAT MIGRATION TO OUR CAPITAL, THE CITY OF BUDDALURA, WHEN WE WERE BESET BY WILD FLYING DRAGONS.

QUICKLY THE LITTLE FOLK DONNED THEIR METAL ARMOR.

PUT ULIA IN COMMAND

SURE! - SHE'S USED TO LEADING THEM! - GO TO IT, ULIA!

ATTENTION, LITTLE FOLK! DEFENSE FORMATION, QUICK!

IT LOOKS LIKE A BAD DAY FOR THE DRAGON HORDE.

YEAH - A MASS OF METAL-BRISTLING WITH SPEARS!

SEE HOW COMPACT THEIR FORMATION IS!

BUT THE FLYING DRAGONS SCATTERED THE LITTLE FOLK LIKE TEN-PINS!

OH OH! - I DIDN'T THINK THIS WOULD HAPPEN!

THEY'RE BRAVE - BUT TOO WEAK TO STAND UP TO DRAGONS - WE'LL HAVE TO GET INTO IT ALURA!

SO INTO IT WE WENT!

ROCKET PISTOLS READY!

MAKE EVERY SHOT COUNT!

OUR EXPLOSIVE ROCKET BULLETS TOOK THE FIGHT OUT OF THE DRAGONS.

SHOO! SCAT!

TAKE THAT - AND THAT - AND THAT!

BAM!

IN AN INSTANT THE DRAGONS WERE IN FULL FLIGHT.

JUST IN TIME! - MY ROCKET PISTOL MAGAZINE IS EMPTY!

BUT YOU DID SOME CLICKY SHOOTING, BUDDY.

BUT ONE OF THE VICIOUS BEASTS CLUTCHED A VICTIM AS HE FLEW.

HELP! HELP!

WHERE DO YOU GET THAT WE STUFF? - YOU'RE NEEDED HERE - I'LL GO RESCUE HER!

IT'S ULIA! - WE MUST RESCUE HER BUDDY!

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FOR HOURS I ROCKETED ON BEHIND THE BEASTS AS THEY FLAPPED OVER THE JAGGED MOUNTAINS.

WHAT AN OOFAH I TURNED OUT TO BE! - TRAILING A HERD OF WILD DRAGONS TO THEIR LAIR! - BUT WHAT ELSE CAN I DO? - ULIA HAS TO BE RESCUED!

DICK CALKINS

(TO BE CONTINUED) 62

NEWS FLASH!

- PLANET VENUS -

IN RESPONSE TO THE OVERWHELMING DEMAND FROM OUR FRIENDS ON EARTH, WE HAVE SENT OUT A GEOGRAPHICAL SURVEY, AND AT PRESENT THE BEST MINDS OF VENUS ARE HARD AT WORK DRAWING UP A MAP OF THIS PLANET. IT WILL BE PRINTED IN BLACK AND WHITE AND YOU CAN COLOR IT YOURSELVES. JUST WRITE TO US IN CARE OF THIS PAPER ENCLOSING 46 IN STAMPS TO COVER MAILING COSTS. WRITE OR PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS PLAINLY. THEN YOU WILL RECEIVE A LARGE MAP OF VENUS, SHOWING THE POSITION OF THE BOILING SEA, AROMAKIA, CAVE OF THE WINDS, THE FLYING DRAGON COUNTRY, AND MANY OTHER STRANGE AND INTERESTING PLACES.

YOUR FRIENDS — Alura and Buddy

BUCK ROGERS 2431 AD

Written by ~ PHIL NOWLAN

HIGH TREASON

Drawn by ~ DICK CALKINS

ALURA OF MARS, AND I, BUDDY DEERING OF EARTH, NOW SUPREME MONARCHS OF THE PLANET VENUS, HAD RESCUED THE LITTLE FOLK FROM THE SUBTERRANEAN CAVES IN WHICH THEIR RACE HAD BEEN IMPRISONED FOR CENTURIES, AND WERE LEADING THEM OVERLAND TO OUR CAPITAL BUDDALURA, WHEN WE WERE ATTACKED BY A HORDE OF WILD FLYING DRAGONS—WE BEAT THE DRAGONS OFF, BUT ONE OF THEM CARRIED AWAY ULIA, LEADER OF THE LITTLE FOLK—LEAVING ALURA WITH OUR CARAVAN. I ROCKETED AFTER THE DRAGONS TO RESCUE ULIA.

FOR HOURS I FOLLOWED—THEN THEY SETTLED DOWN ON A BARE, FLAT PLAIN.

I'LL LAND TOO, AND SNEAK UP ON 'EM ON THE GROUND—THOSE BIG HOLES MUST BE THEIR NESTS—OR DENS—OR—OR—

IF THAT BEAST WOULD ONLY DROP ULIA I COULD SHOOT.

INTENT ON STALKING THE DRAGONS, I FAILED TO SEE AN AMAZING THING OVERHEAD. A VAST NET WAS GENTLY FLOATING DOWN UPON ME—

THE HUGE TRANSPARENT SHEET SETTLED.

THAT WAS A GOOD CAST—WE'LL GET A DOZEN WILD DRAGONS OUT OF THIS!

LET THEM STRUGGLE A FEW MINUTES AND THEY'LL BE HOPELESSLY ENTANGLED.

WHILE UNDERNEATH THE VAST NET———

HEY!—WHAT'S THIS?—IT'S AS LIGHT AS A SPIDER WEB—BUT SO STRONG AND TOUGH I CAN'T TEAR IT!

AS I STRUGGLED VAINLY I HAD A BRIGHT IDEA.

IF I LOAD A ROCKET INTO MY PISTOL BACKWARD, THE BLAST WILL ACT LIKE A TORCH! MAYBE I CAN BURN MY WAY LOOSE!

AND A FEW SECONDS LATER———

DRAGON RIDERS!—THIS IS A LUCKY BREAK—THEY'RE LOYAL SUBJECTS!

HULLO!—LOOK WHAT WE CAUGHT IN OUR NET!

WH-WHY IT LOOKS LIKE KING BUDDY! IT IS KING BUDDY!

I FLEW WITH THEM TO WHERE THE WILD DRAGONS WERE STRUGGLING.

FIRST WE KNOCK THE BEAST COLD!

THERE!—THAT ONE UNDER THERE!—HE'S GOT THE GIRL!—WE MUST RESCUE HER!

I MELTED ANOTHER HOLE IN THE FABRIC WITH MY ROCKET PISTOL, AND THEN———

CAREFUL! SHE'S FAINTED!

WHY, SHE'S ONLY HALF SIZE!

YEP!—THE LITTLE FOLK ARE ALL LIKE THAT!

I DEMANDED THAT GORRO, THE CHIEF OF THE CLAN, BE BROUGHT TO US AT ONCE.

AND THIS LITTLE GIRL—SHE'S A CUTE LITTLE TRICK—IS LEADER OF THE WHOLE RACE OF LITTLE FOLK?

GORRO!—WHAT A SWEET NAME!—WHAT A WONDERFUL MAN!

—AND SO GORRO, I SHALL ACCEPT YOUR ALLEGIANCE, AND YOUR AID IN RETURNING TO MY CORTEGE.

MY CLAN NEVER ACKNOWLEGED YOUR KINGSHIP OVER THE PLANET! YOU ARE MY PRISONER!——ULIA SHALL BE MY BRIDE—HER RACE SHALL JOIN MY CLAN, AND TOGETHER WE SHALL CONQUER THE PLANET.

GORRO'S CASTLE WAS A WONDERFUL AFFAIR—STEEL BARS TAKING THE PLACE OF WALLS, FOR THE DRAGON RIDERS WERE A HARDY RACE AND PREFERRED THE OPEN AIR.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?—WHY ARE YOU PUTTING ME IN HERE?—I DEMAND!

I'M SORRY BUDDY—I MAY BE LITTLE, BUT I HAVE BIG IDEAS—AND I'M BACKING GORRO TO WIN! GORRO AND I, NOT YOU AND ALURA, SHALL RULE!

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TO MAKE MY INDIGNITY COMPLETE—GORRO PLACED A GIRL ON GUARD OVER ME.

OH YEAH?—AND WHO ARE YOU?

I'M THE NEW PRINCESS—I'M LALILLA, GORRO'S NIECE—DON'T YOU THINK I'M PRETTY?

THE NEXT THING I KNEW, LALILLA WAS IN THE CAGE WITH ME.

SH!—I LIKE YOU!—AND WHAT'S MORE I'M NOT GOING TO HAVE ANY LITTLE HALF-MEASURE AUNT LIKE ULIA MADE QUEEN TO BOSS ME AROUND—I CAN GET YOU OUT OF HERE!

HUH?—WH-WHAT? HOW?

JACK CALKINS

(TO BE CONTINUED)

BUCK ROGERS 2431 AD

Written by ~ PHIL NOWLAN

REBELLION SEEMS TRIUMPHANT

Drawn by ~ DICK CALKINS

FAR NORTH - IN THE LAND OF THE DRAGON RIDERS ON THE PLANET VENUS - ALURA OF MARS, AND I, BUDDY DEERING OF EARTH - WHO HAD BEEN MADE SUPREME MONARCHS OF THIS STRANGE WORLD, FACED **DISASTER** - WE HAD RESCUED A RACE OF LITTLE FOLK FROM THE SUBTERRANEAN CAVES OF THE PLANET, BUT THEIR LEADER TREACHEROUSLY HAD CAST HER LOT WITH A RENEGADE CHIEFTAN OF DRAGON RIDERS— TOGETHER THEY PLOTTED TO OVERTHROW OUR KINGDOM.

YOU SAY YOU CAN HELP ME ESCAPE? - AND WHAT IS THE PRICE OF YOUR LOYALTY?

THAT I BE YOUR QUEEN AND RULE THE PLANET **WITH** YOU! AM I NOT **EASY** TO **LOOK** AT?

LALILLA, NIECE OF GORRO THE RENEGADE, ALSO HAD AMBITIONS.

NO! - I CAN'T **SEE** YOU AT **ALL!** - ALURA IS JUST AS MUCH **QUEEN** OF THIS PLANET AS I AM **KING!** - WE SINK OR SWIM **TOGETHER!**

SO! - **KING** BUDDY! YOU **SPURN** ME - **ME!** - LALILLA, THE **PRIDE** OF THE **NORTH!** - YOU'LL BE **SORRY!**

LALILLA WAS **FURIOUS** - ROUGHLY I WAS HUSTLED TO A **TOWER CAGE.**

LIKE A **BIRD** IN A **CAGE!** - HA! YOU CAN **KEEP** YOUR FLYING BELT.

THANKS! - IT **MAY** COME IN HANDY SOME TIME - WHO KNOWS?

THROUGH THE BARS OF MY "AIR-DUNGEON" I WATCHED THE FORCES OF GORRO GATHER - FOR HE AND ULIA PLANNED TO UNITE THE ARMIES OF THE DRAGON RIDERS AND THE LITTLE FOLK.

THEY'LL CAPTURE **ALURA** BEFORE SHE KNOWS WHAT'S HAPPENED — THEN **NOTHING** CAN STAY THEIR MARCH ON BUDDALURA, OUR CAPITAL.

BUT ALURA, ALARMED AT MY FAILURE TO RETURN TO THE CARAVAN OF THE LITTLE FOLK, HAD ROCKETED OFF WITH COMMANDER BENSON TO SEEK ME.

GORRO AND ULIA, SPEEDING TO JOIN THE LITTLE FOLK, FAILED TO NOTICE ALURA AND BENSON FAR ABOVE THEM.

WE SHALL BE THE **RULERS** OF THE PLANET! - ALL MY **LITTLE QUEEN!**

BUDDY'S SAFELY CAGED - WE'LL LOCK ALURA UP - AND THEN—

SOON ALURA SPIED GORRO'S CASTLE.

IT'S **DESERTED!** NO - YES - NO - IN THAT TINY **CAGE!** - THERE'S **SOMEONE THERE** - CAN IT **BE?**

LOOK, BENSON! A **CASTLE!**

THEY ALIGHTED ON THE PLATFORM OF MY CELL.

HA! - A **"COOP D'ETAT!"**

BUDDY!

QUICK! - I'VE GOT TO GET **OUT!** — WE MUST **ROCKET** AT **ONCE** FOR **BUDDALURA** - GORRO AND ULIA HAVE **REBELLED!**

NOW **ALL** TOGETHER!

THE BARS BENT UNDER OUR COMBINED STRENGTH.

UGH!

OOOMPH!

CAN WE **BEAT** THE REBELS TO **BUDDALURA?**

THE **FLYING DRAGONS** HAVE **SPEED!**

BUT **MAYBE** THEY'LL **WAIT** FOR THE **LITTLE FOLK.**

AND SO WE FLASHED SOUTHWARD - OUR ROCKET MOTORS **ROARING.**

ALL WAS **PEACEFUL** IN BUDDALURA, OUR ROYAL CAPITAL.

I DON'T KNOW - THINGS ARE KIND OF DULL - BUT WE'RE GETTING A LOT OF CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE AROUND.

I WONDER WHERE KING BUDDY AND QUEEN ALURA ARE?

LUNCH

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BUT DOWN FROM THE HILLS OF THE NORTH - CLOSER AND CLOSER - CAME GORRO AND ULIA - AND THEIR **TERRIBLE ARMY.**

ONE MORE RANGE OF HILLS TO CROSS - AND **THEN—**

WE SHALL FALL UPON THE UNSUSPECTING CITY - LIKE A **STORM OF DESTRUCTION!!!**

(TO BE CONTINUED)

BUCK ROGERS 2431 AD

Written by - PHIL NOWLAN

FATE IN BALANCE

Drawn by - DICK CALKINS

THERE IMPENDED A TRAGIC END TO THE REIGN OF ALURA AND MYSELF AS SUPREME SOVEREIGNS OF THE PLANET VENUS - FOR GORRO, A POWERFUL CHIEF OF THE DRAGON RIDERS OF THE NORTH, HAD REVOLTED - AND WITH ULLA, LEADER OF THE LITTLE FOLK, PLANNED TO SEIZE THE THRONE - AS THEIR DREAD ARMY CREPT STEALTHILY TOWARD THE LAST RIDGE THAT CONCEALED THEM FROM BUDDALURA, OUR UNSUSPECTING CAPITAL ——

GORRO SPIED A TINY SPECK — HIGH IN THE SKY.

WHAT IS IT?

ONE OF THOSE BIRD RIDERS OF ALURA'S GUARD - WE ARE DISCOVERED!

BIRD GIRL? HUH! - WATCH ME WING HER!

THE BIRD RIDER WAS NONE OTHER THAN ELOBIEM, CAPTAIN OF ALURA'S GUARD.

HOSTILE DRAGONEERS! — AN ATTACK ON THE CITY! — I MUST GIVE THE ALARM! BUT I'M PURSUED!

LALILLA'S LITTLE DRAGONETTE HAD TREMENDOUS SPEED.

I'M OVERHAULING HER FAST! - IN JUST A MOMENT MORE - WATCH THE FEATHERS FLY!

I CAN'T OUTFLY HER - SHE'S GAINING! - BUT ——

SUDDENLY ELOBIEM LOOPED - AND —

KI!-YI! YIPEEEE!

STOP! STOP! - HELP!

AWRK! AWWRK!

EEEK

THE DRAGON-GIRL DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE.

AND THERE'S ONE FOR YOUR REPERTOIRE!

AWRK!

EEEK!

I SURRENDER! - HAVE MERCY!

ELOBIEM ALIGHTED ON THE PALACE ROOF WITH HER PRISONER.

HIYAH! — LOOK WHAT I PICKED OUT OF THE AIR!

A DRAGON-GIRL! - AND YOU SAY THERE'S AN ARMY APPROACHING TOO?

WELL, YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO ROUGH DO YOU?

NOW, YOU TALK! - AND TALK STRAIGHT, OR-OR--

MERCY! MERCY! - DON'T WHIP ME! - I'LL TELL ALL!

AND MAKE IT CLICKY, TOO.

ELOBIEM WAS HARD-BOILED. SHE GOT THE TRUTH OUT OF LALILLA.

THE STORY LALILLA TOLD CAUSED A PANIC IN THE CITY.

IF ONLY KING BUDDY WERE HERE TO LEAD US!

OR QUEEN ALURA! - WHAT SHALL WE DO?

AT THIS MOMENT —

THERE THEY ARE! - THE ARMY OF GORRO AND ULLA!

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY! - DEPRIVE THEM OF LEADERSHIP! IT'S A LONG CHANCE - BUT -

ALREADY THEY'RE DEPLOYING TO ATTACK THE CITY! - HOW CAN WE STOP THEM.

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WE TOOK THAT CHANCE! — LIKE THREE PROJECTILES WE ROCKETED FULL BLAST! —— STRAIGHT AT GORRO AND ULLA!

BUCK ROGERS

Written by PHIL NOWLAN

2431 A.D.

THE FATE OF THE PLANET VENUS HUNG IN THE BALANCE—GORRO, RENEGADE LEADER OF DRAGON FLIERS, AND ULIA, CHIEFTAINESS OF THE LITTLE FOLK, WERE IN REVOLT AGAINST THE REIGN OF ALURA AND MYSELF AS SUPREME MONARCHS OF THIS STRANGE WORLD—AS THEIR ARMY WAS ABOUT TO ATTACK BUDDALURA, OUR CAPITAL, WE ATTEMPTED TO CAPTURE GORRO AND ULIA, AND THUS DEPRIVE THE REBELS OF LEADERSHIP.

Buddy Deering

THE KING FALLS

ALURA AND I WHISKED GORRO OFF HIS DRAGON—BUT BENSON MISSED ULIA.

HOLD ON TO HIM TIGHT!

I MISSED HER!

NEVER TOUCHED ME!

WHOOFAH!—HE'S HEAVY WITH ALL THIS ARMOR ON!

LOOK!—A WHOLE SWARM OF DRAGON RIDERS!

WE ROCKETED ON TOWARD THE CITY—BUT—

BETWEEN US AND OUR CITY! WE'LL HAVE TO CIRCLE AND FLEE!

I'LL ACT AS REAR GUARD—YOU GET AWAY WITH THE PRISONER!

MAYBE I CAN HOLD THEM BACK—IT'S THE ONLY THING TO DO!

BUT WE WERE SLOW IN GETTING STARTED—

FULL BLAST, ALURA!—FULL BLAST! THEY'RE GAINING!

THIS OOFAH IS SO HEAVY, BUDDY!—WE CAN'T GET UP SPEED!

BENSON MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE!—BEFORE WE KNEW IT—

HE'S SACRIFICING HIMSELF TO HOLD THEM BACK!—WE MUST RESCUE HIM!

IT'S NO USE!—THEY'VE GOT HIM ALREADY!

WHY ARE WE CLIMBING?

TO GET UP INTO THIN AIR WHERE THOSE DRAGONS CAN'T FOLLOW—THERE WON'T BE ENOUGH SUPPORT FOR THEIR WINGS!

THEY CAN'T SCARE ME!—THEY DON'T DARE DROP ME!

UP-UP-UP WE SHOT TO HIGHER ALTITUDES.

WE MUST HAVE REACHED A HEIGHT OF SIX OR SEVEN MILES.

OOOOF!—I CAN S-SCARCELY BREATHE!—AND THERE'S NOTHING BUT CLOUDS BELOW!

NOW, GORRO!—YOU REBEL!—DO YOU SURRENDER?—WILL YOU CALL OFF YOUR REVOLUTION IF WE LET YOU DOWN?

NEVER!

SO WE TOOK GORRO STILL HIGHER.

THIS IS TOO HIGH, BUDDY!—L-LET'S GO DOWN WHERE THE B-BREATHING IS EASIER!

SUPPOSE I DROP YOU, GORRO!

HA HA!—YOU DON'T DARE!—MY DRAGON RIDERS HAVE BEGUN THE ATTACK ON YOUR CITY—IF YOU DROP ME, THERE'LL BE NO ONE TO CALL THEM OFF!

AT THIS MOMENT SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAPPENED!—WE PLUNGED DOWNWARD!

OOOPH!—WHAT HAPPENED?

IT'S YOUR FLYING BELT—THE STRAPS BROKE—YOU'VE LOST IT!

FASTER AND FASTER—WE FELL!

LET GO OF US ALURA!—YOU CAN'T HOLD US UP!—THERE'S NO SENSE IN YOU CRASHING TOO!

NO NO!—THERE MUST BE SOMETHING WE CAN DO!

THIS IS BEGINNING TO LOOK SERIOUS!

AT LAST I BROKE ALURA'S HOLD, AND—

BACK!—BACK TO BUDDALURA!—SAVE THE CITY FROM THE REBELS!

OH BUDDY! BUDDY!

HEY!—WHAT WAS—WE HAVEN'T A CHANCE NOW!

DOWN-DOWN! WE SEEMED TO PLUNGE ENDLESSLY!

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TO BE CONTINUED

Buck Rogers

by PHIL NOWLAN AND DICK CALKINS

2431 A.D.

ALURA AND I, SUPREME MONARCHS OF THE PLANET VENUS, HAD MADE AN AIR RAID ON THE ARMY OF THE REBELS WHO WERE ATTACKING OUR CAPITAL, THE CITY OF BUDDALURA, AND WHO WANTED TO DETHRONE US —— WE CAPTURED GORRO, RENEGADE LEADER OF THE DRAGON RIDERS BUT THE STRAPS OF MY **FLYING BELT** BROKE, AND THOUGH ALURA TRIED DESPERATELY TO SAVE US, WE WERE PLUNGING DOWN — **DOWN** —— ***MILE AFTER MILE*** · *Buddy Deering*

BELOW US BILLOWED A GREAT CLOUD.

LOOKS LIKE A GREAT BIG FEATHER BED — IF IT **ONLY WAS!**

THERE'S HARD-HARD GROUND BENEATH IT!

IN A **FLASH** MY WHOLE LIFE PASSED IN REVIEW.

THE RACE FOR THE CITY

I REMEMBERED MY HAPPY CHILDHOOD ON **EARTH** - HOW I WENT TO **MARS**, AND MET **ALURA** —— HOW TOGETHER WE WENT TO **PLUTO** - THEN TO **VENUS**, WHOSE INHABITANTS HAD ACCLAIMED US **KING** AND **QUEEN** - HOW WE HAD BEATEN OFF THE **DREADFUL MERCURIANS** - AND RELEASED FROM THEIR UNDERGROUND CAVERNS THE **LITTLE FOLK** OF VENUS, ONLY TO HAVE THEM JOIN THE **DRAGON RIDERS OF THE NORTH** IN REVOLT AGAINST US.

BUT AT THIS MOMENT - FAR BELOW - ELOBIEM, CAPTAIN OF THE QUEEN'S GUARD, WAS SCOUTING OVER THE BATTLE LINE WITH ONE OF HER GUARDSGIRLS.

LOOK! CAPTAIN - FALLING OUT OF THE CLOUD UP THERE!

WHY IT'S **KING BUDDY!** - AND SOMEONE ELSE - WE **MUST** SAVE THEM!

THE GIRLS EXECUTED A **DARING MANEUVER.**

WE'RE DIRECTLY BENEATH THEM!

FOLD WINGS, AND PLUNGE! SO THEY WON'T HIT US TOO **HARD!**

AN INSTANT LATER ——

SAVED!

EASY NOW, YOUR MAJESTY! GRAB HIS **TAIL FEATHERS!**

WELL, IF IT ISN'T GORRO! - THE BIG DRAGON AND **ARMOR MAN** FROM THE NORTH!

—— AND **THEN** ——

WHOOPS! **HOLD ON TIGHT!**

OOOPH! I HOPE HIS FEATHERS ARE STUCK IN WELL!

YOU'RE MY PRISONER!

FOR **LIFE** - IF YOU'LL **HAVE** ME!

THE GREAT WINGS OF THE EAGLES CHECKED OUR FALL **JUST** IN TIME.

THAT WAS A **CLOSE CALL!** - WE MIGHT HAVE FALLEN IN THE **MIDDLE** OF ——

YOU JUST TRY TO JUMP **OFF** HERE AND I'LL **WHAM** YOU ONE!

WHY SHOULD I **WANT** TO JUMP OFF —— **BEAUTIFUL?**

THE **REBELS' GENERAL HEADQUARTERS!**

BELOW US LALLILA, GORRO'S NIECE, AND ULIA, LEADER OF THE **LITTLE FOLK,** LEAPED INTO ACTION.

WHY IT'S **KING BUDDY!** - I **WANT** HIM, AND I'M GOING TO **GET** HIM - COME **ON** ULIA - **AFTER THEM!**

AND **MY** GORRO - WITH THAT **BRAZEN EAGLE GIRL** - AND HE SEEMS TO BE **ENJOYING** IT! - I'LL **FIX HIM!**

BY THIS TIME ALURA HAD ROCKETED DOWN TO US.

WHIP UP THOSE EAGLES! WE'RE **PURSUED!!**

A COUPLE OF **DRAGONEERS HUH?**

WHO ARE YOUR FRIENDS FOLLOWING US?

IT'S **LALLILA** AND **ULIA** - I DON'T WANT TO SEE **EITHER** OF THEM - NOT **NOW** - CAN'T YOU FLY **FASTER!**

SWIFTLY OUR PURSUERS DREW UP ON US - AND GAINED ALTITUDE.

FASTER - **FASTER!** - THEY'RE **GAINING!**

WE'RE STILL SOME **DISTANCE** FROM THE **CITY!**

THEY'RE COMING UP **FAST!**

CAN WE MAKE IT?

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DICK CALKINS

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Buck Rogers

by PHIL NOWLAN AND DICK CALKINS

2431 A.D.

ALURA, A MARTIAN PRINCESS, AND I, BUDDY DEERING OF EARTH HAD BECOME REIGNING MONARCHS OF THE PLANET MERCURY – AND THEN FOUND OURSELVES WITH A REVOLUTION ON OUR HANDS – DISASTER HAD SEEMED INEVITABLE, BUT BY A LUCKY BREAK WE HAD CAPTURED GORRO, THE LEADER OF THE REBELS, AND WERE STREAKING BACK TO OUR CAPITAL WITH HIM.

MECHANICAL "TURTLES"

OUR PURSUERS WERE GAINING RAPIDLY.

IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF MINUTES NOW BEFORE THEY OVERTAKE US!

WELL, ELOBIEM SEEMS ABLE TO HOLD HIM ALL RIGHT – ALL RIGHT!

WE'VE GOT TO KEEP GORRO IN OUR HANDS, WE NEED HIM AS A **HOSTAGE!**

HOORAY!– THE **BIEMOVI!**

RISING FROM THE CITY TO RESCUE US!

UP WITH THE **EAGLES!**– DOWN WITH THE **DRAGONS!**

BUT WHEN ALL HOPE SEEMED GONE.

THEN CAME THE GIRLS OF ALURA'S GUARD – EQUIPPED WITH **FLYING BELTS.**

COME ON GIRLS!– IT'S **KING BUDDY** AND **QUEEN ALURA** – SOCK THOSE DRAGONEERS WHO ARE CHASING **THEM!**

THEN CAME THE **ARMORED FLYERS** OF MY **OWN** GUARD SNAPPING INTO ACTION

GO **GETTEM,** BOYS!– I'LL BE **WITH** YOU AS SOON AS I GET A **FLYING BELT!**

YOU WILL **NOT,** BUDDY DEERING!– YOU'RE GOING TO STAY WITH ME!

BACK OF THE REBEL LINES LALILLA, GORRO'S NIECE, AND ULIA, LEADER OF THE **LITTLE FOLK**, STROVE TO RALLY THEIR FORCES.

STOP!– STOP! GET **BACK** INTO THAT **FIGHT!**

IT'S **USELESS!**– ALL IS **LOST!**– GORRO IS **CAPTURED!**

THE RETREAT OF THE REBELS BECAME A **ROUT.**

WE'RE **LICKED**– AND WE **KNOW** IT!

HAVE **MERCY** ON US, **O MIGHTY SOVEREIGNS!**

WHY OF **COURSE** IF YOU **BEHAVE** YOURSELVES.

NEXT DAY LALILLA AND ULIA CAME IN UNDER A FLAG OF TRUCE.

AND PEACE WAS SEALED IN THE WEDDINGS OF **ELOBIEM,** CAPTAIN OF ALURA'S GUARD, TO GORRO, EX-LEADER OF THE REVOLT.

AH! MY WONDERFUL BRIDE!

AND **BOSS,** TOO!– DON'T FORGET **THAT,** MY DEAR.

WE DEVOTED THE NEXT FEW MONTHS TO BUILDING CONSTRUCTION IN BUDDALURA, OUR CAPITAL.

THE BOARD OF TRADE BUILDING WILL GO **THERE!**

AND THE NEW POWER HOUSE **THERE!**

NOR DID WE NEGLECT TO BUILD AIRCRAFT.

WE OUGHT TO BUILD A NEW **SPACE** SHIP **TOO,** BUDDY.

YEAH!– WITHOUT ONE WE'D BE OUT OF LUCK IF WE WERE ATTACKED FROM SOME OTHER **PLANET!**

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THEN SUDDENLY ONE DAY, OUR **BORDER GUARD** SAW–

STRANGE MACHINES!– **COMING OUT OF THE DESERT!**– **SHOOTING** AT US.

B-BUT– NO VENUSIANS KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT MACHINES EXCEPT WHAT BUDDY AND ALURA HAVE TAUGHT US – WHERE DO THESE **MECHANICAL TURTLES** COME FROM?

BAM!

DICK CALKINS

(TO BE CONTINUED)